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SEQUEL OPPORTUNITY

Philip Howard's dream of Manderley

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First stop Paris in summit run-up

Major scours Europe for deal on ERM

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major today embarks on a round of shuttle diplomacy in the conviction that he can persuade other European leaders to accept amendments to the exchange-rate mechanism, despite the apparent rebuff of his plans for fundamental changes by the other 11 finance ministers at the meeting with Norman Lamont in Brussels on Monday.

Mr Major's first port of call will be Paris, where he will spend 90 minutes with President Mitterrand before returning to London for a working dinner with Denmark's premier Poul Schlüter. He also plans to meet or speak to other EC leaders, including German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, in the run-up to the special summit on Europe's future in Birmingham on October 16. Chancellor Kohl

yesterday criticised what he said were rumours circulating about Franco-German plans for a "two-speed Europe". "We want Britain to be with us, we want a Europe of 12, we do not want a two-speed Europe," he said.

The prime minister's apparent hardening of his stance against Britain's re-entry into the ERM appears to be an attempt to appease the growing Euro-scepticism within the Conservative party, while maintaining his commitment to press ahead with the Maastricht treaty.

John Major brushed aside the reluctance of other European leaders to reform the ERM and made clear that Britain would not rejoin the system in the immediate future. He confidently predicted that he could persuade the other members to acknowledge the need for reform as he starts a series of talks with his EC counterparts today. He was not going to be distracted by "froth and bubbles".

One official commented: "The line he is taking is that he sees little prospect of a return to the ERM without fundamental changes but that he remains honour bound to ratify Maastricht." However, the official admitted that there was "something of an impasse" since other EC ministers were showing little enthusiasm for a root-and-branch reappraisal of the mechanism.

The French government remains officially committed to helping Britain ratify the treaty and publicly opposed to contingency planning for a "two-speed" Europe. But the tone of yesterday's French

media comment, inspired by hints from government sources, reflected rising impatience with a British government suspected of indifference to the fate of the treaty. Today's meeting will not take matters much further since Paris, along with other European capitals, is well aware that the next moves on the treaty depend on decisions in Denmark and Britain.

In London yesterday Mr Major denied that Britain's European partners had blocked his initiative for reforming the ERM. "There will be work done on the exchange-rate mechanism. We have made our position perfectly clear. It is self-evident that at present it has been shown that the exchange rate mechanism has what I call fault lines in it and those fault lines need to be addressed."

He went on: "I know that our European partners know that and they will acknowledge that and work will need to be done on that and that will take some time. It is perfectly clear that we cannot go back in to the exchange rate mechanism in the immediate future."

When asked about Lord Tebbit's anti-EC comments on Monday, Mr Major said: "I am going to deal with the substantive issues that are in front of us. That is my responsibility. This is a time for a clear cool and careful calculation of what the British interest is. I am not going to be distracted by froth and bubbles."

However the rhetoric from Continued on page 16, col 2

Lamont focus, pages 6 & 7

New leader points the way to political power



Fighting talk: John Smith in Blackpool demanding that the prime minister apologise to the British people for betraying their trust

Smith revels in Tories' disarray

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Smith yesterday pledged the Labour party to the pursuit of power as he mercilessly exploited the government's handling of the sterling crisis and accused the prime minister of humiliating Britain.

In an address intended to present him as a prime minister in-waiting impatient to get into Downing Street, Mr Smith said he did not wish to lead for long a party of Opposition. "I was elected to lead a party of government."

And in a clear warning to a government embattled by divisions over Europe and defending only a 21-vote majority, he said Labour would be a fighting Opposition. "We will relentlessly challenge every attempt by

this government to inflict further damage on the fabric of our society. But at the same time in every week of every month we will be working and preparing for government."

He devoted much of his first leader's speech at the Labour conference to a fierce personal assault on John Major, telling him to apologise to the British people for the betrayal of their trust. There was no allusion to Mr Major for the dole queues, poverty and repossessions, Mr Smith declared. As prime minister and in his previous ministerial posts he had designed and delivered disaster. It was all his own work.

Although much of his 50-minute speech amounted to a manifesto of his vision and determination to tackle Britain's ills, Mr Smith revelled in the

government's disarray. Confronted with a crisis of their own creation "we saw a government gripped by indecision, paralysed by fear, and a prime minister plodding on to disaster", he said. "John Major had only one policy — to wait and see what happened. The result was total humiliation. Not only for himself and his government. He has humiliated Britain."

He taunted: "The man who dreamed of toppling the Deutschmark carries the responsibility for the single most disastrous day in our postwar economic history. The people are entitled to be angry — the cynical deceit of the Tory election campaign, the easy promise that all the economy needed was the reassurance of a Tory victory — all now exposed in the harsh light of the real world." He went on:

"What we have seen is the devaluation not just of a currency but of a prime minister and an entire government."

Mr Smith delighted his audience. He dubbed Mr Major and Norman Lamont as the Laurel and Hardy of British politics. Although his speech lacked the fire of his predecessor, it was warmly praised last night by all sections of the party.

Delivering a strong restatement of his pro-Europeanism, he criticised Mr Major for taking Britain to the edge of Europe. "The opt-out prime minister is leading a do-nothing government off the European stage. So much for being at the heart of Europe."

Smith vow, page 5
Leading article, page 13
Conference sketch, page 16

UK toll in air crash rises to 37

By LIN JENKINS AND HARVEY ELLIOTT

AN INTERNATIONAL team of investigators believes it will know the precise cause of the Pakistani Airbus A300 crash by the end of the week.

It was confirmed yesterday that of the 167 people on board killed in the crash, 37 were British. The investigators studied flight recorders salvaged from the wreckage in the foothills of the Himalayas a few miles short of Kathmandu airport and errors by the crew are expected to be blamed for the crash.

Yesterday, bodies were being removed from the charred debris of flight PK263 and taken to a makeshift mortuary. At least 30 relatives of the victims have accepted an offer from Pakistan International Airline to fly to Nepal today. In Karachi, officials of the Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority said the airline would pay compensation of between £5,800 and £44,000 to the family of each victim.

Besides the missionaries Andrew and Helen Wilkins and their children, Britons aboard included some well-known mountaineers, the poet Dominic Sasse, a doctor and two psychiatrists. The Foreign Office said last night that only three-quarters of the victims' next of kin had been informed. A full list would be issued once all the families had been told.

Climbers mourn, page 2

Taylor fears judges will be seen as 'going soft'

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

THE Lord Chief Justice yesterday launched a strong attack on the government's new sentencing policy, complaining that both judges and the public would have misgivings over the courts' lack of power to deal with persistent offenders.

Lord Taylor of Gossforth also gave a warning of a bulging prison population if judges did not impose shorter sentences under the Criminal Justice Act, which comes into force tomorrow.

At the first press conference by any senior sitting judge, Lord Taylor said it was not for judges to be "happy" or otherwise with the principles of the act; it was their task to apply them. But he added: "Not only judges, but the public, will have some misgivings about a regime in which the previous record and number of offences



Taylor: attack on new sentencing rules

committed are minimised to the extent which this act does." The act is designed to cut the number of minor offenders sent to prison while imposing tougher penalties for violent and sexual offenders. But it has been criticised for being unclear, particularly in the section that outlines sen-

tencing criteria. Lord Taylor said that interpretation of various loosely worded clauses "would have to await guidelines from the Court of Appeal, as groups of cases came up."

Under the act, judges were entitled to take into account one offence, but not a whole string of them, he said. The aim was to stop judges aggregating a line of minor offences to impose a more severe sentence. "But members of the public may feel that if someone commits 135 offences of a particular kind, it may seem somewhat strange if judges can only take account of one of them, as well as the one they are sentencing on."

Another potential problem was that the act could increase the prison population. "If Continued on page 16, col 1

JPs' regrets, page 4
Leading article, page 13

V2 'celebration' goes ahead

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

FOUR days of activities to mark the 50th anniversary of the first successful V2 launch are to go ahead in Peenemünde after all, even though the German government has withdrawn its sponsorship.

The unofficial event is now being backed by DASA, the German space and armaments company, and organised by the space centre museum in the village. The actual anniversary of the flight is on Saturday, which coincides with German unification day, but the planned programme is to begin tomorrow and continue through the

weekend. Events planned include speeches, contemporary newsreel films, readings and panel discussions.

Peter Profe, the museum's director, said yesterday that criticism of the occasion was "a huge misunderstanding". There had never been any intention of celebrating the construction of Hitler's weapon, he said. The only point had been to mark the dawn of modern space technology.

During the different events panels would discuss the use of the V2 (retaliator) as an instrument of terror and there would

be no attempt to hide the fact that the rocket caused many deaths.

Among those invited to attend the ceremonies are former V2 engineers and slave labourers. An RAF representative has also been asked, but none is being sent in an official capacity. "If anyone goes he will definitely not be representing the RAF," a British spokesman said.

Herr Profe said he expected about 2,000 visitors at the event and he was sure there would be no protests. "I can't think who would want to protest," he said.

ON OTHER PAGES Refugees at risk

The lives of 400,000 people forced from their homes in Bosnia will be at risk this winter as they face hunger and exposure, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Even the possibility of a resumption of the aid airlift may not be enough to save them. Page 11

Boys saved

Doctors and social workers accused of behaving like Nazis when they took a boy aged 13 from his home in the Isle of Man and forced him to have hospital treatment probably saved his life, an enquiry has found. Page 3

Mafia fight

Liliana Ferraro, the judge in charge of tackling the Mafia, has described her battle against organised crime and her delight at the smashing of a Colombian cocaine network, but she fears problems under the single European market. Page 11

Bowing out

Gianni Agnelli, the 71-year-old chairman of Fiat and the grand old man of Italian industry, will stand down in 1994 to make way for his younger brother, Umberto Agnelli. Page 17

Soccer tackle

The Football Association is to tackle Vinnie Jones, the Wimbledon player, on his role in a video about violence and cheating. Jones is likely to be suspended for bringing the game into disrepute. Page 30

4,000 more jobs to be axed

By OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF

ANOTHER bad day for British industry saw thousands of jobs lost in both the private and public sectors. The biggest cut was made by the Ministry of Defence, which dropped 2,000 jobs from its former research and development departments to save £90million a year.

Stores giant Sear's, Northern Telecom, Pirelli Cables and Independent Television News revealed plans to cut jobs. Today's total of over 4,000 adds to the 6,000 job cuts announced last week.

The proposed MoD redundancies were announced by John Chisholm, the chief executive of the Defence Research Agency which took over the running of four non-nuclear research sites in April last year. The agency, which employs more than 10,000, has been trying to reduce its annual operating costs of £800 million.

A total of 1,800 jobs are under threat at British Shoe Corporation, which is to close 350 shops, operating under the Deol's, Saxone and Freeman Hardy & Willis names, over the next three years.

Around a third of the workforce employed by BSC is part-time, working only on Saturdays. Many of the cuts will be by natural wastage.

Northern Telecom said 400 jobs will go from factories in Northern Ireland, south Wales and Essex. Pirelli Cables is to axe almost 300 jobs by closing its plant at Bishopstoke in Hampshire. ITN is to shed 112 technical and administrative jobs.

Defence cuts, page 4
Gloomy week, page 17

I'd like a quiet word with the boss.



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'Bogus' doctor killed patient through lack of care, court told

By BILL FROST

A FORMER US Army paramedic tricked his way into a job as a hospital doctor and killed a woman, patient through lack of care, a jury at the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Matthew Brafman, 33, was "bogus, he was a sham, he was an imposter" who masqueraded as a qualified doctor when he came to Britain and got a job at St George's Hospital, Morningside, said Brian Barker QC for the prosecution.

Brafman, who denies the manslaughter of 78-year-old Mrs Jessie Harris, was "totally unqualified", Mr Barker added.

Mrs Harris was admitted to the hospital one Sunday last October and within 12 hours she was dead, the court was told. "She should have left hospital alive, well and recovered," said Mr Barker, who alleged her death was through Mr Brafman's lack of care.

As the patient's condition deteriorated, Mr Brafman did not seek help from senior doctors but "brazened it out" and took away the last chance for her to be properly and professionally treated, he added.

The court was told that Mr

Brafman began working at St George's — a hospital specialising in geriatric care — in September 1991. He had a reasonable bedside manner and got on well with the elderly patients.

"He was self-confident, firm in his views. At one stage he was seen in green operating theatre uniform — despite the fact there was no theatre at St George's," Mr Barker said.

Mr Brafman, who was living with his English wife in medical quarters at Old

Church Hospital, Romford, was the duty doctor the day Mrs Harris was admitted.

"His acts and his omissions contributed significantly to that lady's death," Mr Barker said. The accused had sought responsibility for the care of patients and had "sadly failed in that responsibility and that duty".

Mr Barker said Mrs Harris was elderly, with a history of various medical problems. It was not known what she had actually died of as she had been cremated.

What the prosecution did have was the views of various experts and people who had observed Mrs Harris in hospital.

He alleged that measures taken by Mr Brafman to help his patient "had completely the opposite effect".

Mr Brafman gave Mrs Harris some injections, the court was told, but as she became seriously ill and deteriorated rapidly, Mr Brafman did not face reality and seek help.

Mr Barker told the jury that it would have to consider the case carefully and with objectivity.

"It is not suggested he wanted to kill or seriously harm her, but in the extraordinary circumstances of this case, he displayed real negligence and reckless disregard of the obvious dangers," said Mr Barker.

The court was told that Mr Brafman began displaying an interest in medicine as a teenager and joined a volunteer ambulance corps in New York state.

He subsequently enlisted with the US Army and served for three years on the medical side. In July 1982 he rejoined the army still serving as a paramedic and rose to the rank of staff sergeant.

Mr Brafman served at hospitals in the United States as well as in Germany and attended a number of courses and specialist training sessions. But this would have given him only the level of expertise of a registered nurse, said Mr Barker.

As a result of back problems Mr Brafman left the army in the summer of 1991, came to Britain with his family and applied for the job as senior house officer at the Old Church Hospital, Romford.

He was offered a vacancy at his sister hospital, St George's.

Mr Barker alleged that Mr Brafman was generally incompetent and had failed Mrs Harris by not ordering tests, prescribing drugs without examining her and not seeking help in the case from qualified doctors. Nor, said Mr Barker, did he alert relatives who had left her happy and cheerful a few hours earlier that there had been "a massive turn for the worse".

Mr Barker told the jury that Mr Brafman's gross negligence amounted to manslaughter. "Taking no guidance was arrogance and taking no action was negligence."

The court was told that Mrs Harris, despite suffering from chest problems and Parkinson's disease, was a cheerful and independent woman. The doctor who first saw her on admission thought that within a few days of treatment she would be well enough to return home.

The trial was adjourned until tomorrow.

Matthew Brafman: got on well with patients

He returned home. He became paralysed and lost the power of speech.

As his condition deteriorated he was transferred to Great Ormond Street hospital in London, but his parents, Robin and Barbara Proctor, refused to have him treated in the psychiatric unit. When they returned with him to the Isle of Man, doctors and social workers decided to seek a care order. He was taken from his home by social workers, with police standing by, on May 23, 1988, and admitted to Nobles hospital, where he remained until the following October. His parents were allowed to see him for only 30 minutes a day.

In hospital he rapidly gained weight and vitality. He was allowed home after both sides agreed to an independent medical assessment by Dr David Lewis, a consultant paediatrician at Bronllys Hospital, Aberystwyth, with a special interest in ME in children, who had been recommended to the Proctors by the pressure group ME Action.

Dr Lewis took over management of the case and succeeded in winning the confidence of Ean's parents. The home tutor appointed after Ean returned home "coerced, bullied and encouraged" him into mental and physical effort which was "the most important treatment that he received", the enquiry concludes. Ean has since obtained six GCSEs and is studying for A levels.

The enquiry says that the inappropriate criticism of children's services on the island has raised "a real danger that people might be deterred from seeking and accepting vital assistance" and urges the Manx parliament to re-affirm its confidence in the medical and social services.

Enquiry clears social workers who took boy

By JEREMY LAURANCE

DOCTORS and social workers who were accused of behaving like Nazis when they removed a 13-year-old boy from his parents and compelled him to undergo hospital treatment showed concern and commitment and probably saved his life, an enquiry has found.

Ean Proctor, now 17, was taken from his parents for five months when he was 13 because they refused to accept that he was psychiatrically ill. Ean was diagnosed as suffering from post-viral fatigue syndrome, also known as ME (myalgic encephalomyelitis), but his parents insisted it was a physical condition requiring only rest, appropriate diet and mild physiotherapy.

At the time of his removal, Ean was mute, unable to feed himself and confined to a wheelchair. He had lost more than 42lb. The ward sister who admitted him to Nobles hospital on the Isle of Man, described him as having "a transparent look and the aroma of death".

The enquiry, by an independent commission appointed by the Manx parliament, has overturned the findings of an earlier select committee report which concluded that the doctors and child-care workers had acted "precipitately" in taking Ean into care in 1988. It criticises the committee for its selective use of evidence which led to "offensive statements" including references to Hitler's Germany, Saddam Hussein's Iraq and tortures from the last war.

Ean's illness began in 1986 following a bout of holiday tummy from which he did not recover. He was diagnosed at Nobles hospital as having "post-viral malaise". His weight fell sharply, but rose when he was admitted to hospital and fell again when

he returned home. He became paralysed and lost the power of speech.

As his condition deteriorated he was transferred to Great Ormond Street hospital in London, but his parents, Robin and Barbara Proctor, refused to have him treated in the psychiatric unit. When they returned with him to the Isle of Man, doctors and social workers decided to seek a care order. He was taken from his home by social workers, with police standing by, on May 23, 1988, and admitted to Nobles hospital, where he remained until the following October. His parents were allowed to see him for only 30 minutes a day.

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Working girls: from left, Annette Layden, Ann Tuck, Mandy Chisholm and Francesca West on their way to court yesterday to save their jobs

High Court to hear women's plea for Sunday work

By PAUL WILKINSON

FOUR part-time staff with the DIY chain B&Q are suing their local council for lost wages after it obtained a court order forcing their employer to close on Sundays.

The four women, who work in the hardware chain's branch in Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, lost their Sunday jobs for ten weeks last year after Kirklees council secured an injunction.

The Dewsbury store has since reopened for Sunday trading and yesterday at Bradford County Court the women sought their own injunction to

prevent the council taking new action that might cost them their jobs once more.

Mr Justice Hoffmann said that he could not see how he could grant an injunction preventing anyone going to court, particularly a court higher than his own. Instead he transferred the application and the damages claim to the High Court in London, which is scheduled on Monday to hear a new request from Kirklees for a ban on B&Q opening on Sundays. He asked for the women's claim to be dealt with at the same time.

Outside yesterday's hearing, one of

the women, Ann Tuck, 30, said: "We were seeking an injunction to stop Kirklees closing our store down while the case goes through the court. If B&Q closes on a Sunday we will lose our only source of income. It is the only time of the week when we can work as we are at home looking after our children the rest of the week. When Kirklees shut B&Q down I lost more than £400 in wages."

Mrs Tuck and two of her companions are checkout operators. The other is a clerk. They say they are acting independently of their employer.

Their case was presented by Gerald

Barling, QC, who said that the whole subject of Sunday trading was in confusion. The industry was awaiting a judgment from the European Court, possibly within the next two months, and most authorities that had to enforce the Sunday trading laws had "taken a back seat" until the decision was announced.

Kirklees, however, was moving against several big multiples, including B&Q. Mr Barling said that a survey in the area had shown more than 500 firms trading in apparent breach of the law, but the council was attacking only half a dozen big firms.

Ritz amnesty for light-fingered guests

By JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

THE Ritz Hotel in London is offering an amnesty to guests who have "borrowed" its fixtures and fittings over the years, in an attempt to recapture its history.

If the items are returned no questions will be asked about why they were taken in the first place and the management is offering rewards, such as a £1,100 champagne breakfast for two, to those who return items.

However, a tourist who smuggled out a towel last week will receive nothing. Only

items that disappeared before 1960 are wanted, for a museum planned to open in the hotel at the end of the year. The museum will trace the Ritz's history since it opened in 1906.

The hotel management has drawn up a list of wanted items with rewards to match their value. A piece of crockery, for example, can be swapped for afternoon tea in the Palm Court.

Autographed menus and brochures win lunch and monogrammed bath towels

and robes, dinner. A period chamberpot will win a night for two — worth £250 at current rates — and a champagne weekend for two in a suite, worth £1,100, can be had by those who managed somehow to leave the hotel with a bedroom vanity set, kitchen silverware or furniture, tucked carefully inside a suitcase.

Terry Holmes, managing director of the Ritz, said: "I have already had a lady's glove-stretcher returned and a lot of bills from the time we

opened. Apparently a grand piano got lost in 1922, it would be nice if that was returned."

He added that the Ritz had very few thefts. "This is a very small hotel and 70 per cent of our clients have been here before."

"People look at the hotel as home. We do lose about 6,000 ashtrays a year, but that's only to be expected."

"They go on in hotels where people are only passing through for the night and never expect to return."

Notice to Customers National Savings Changes

SAVINGS CERTIFICATES

National Savings Certificates of the 39th Issue will go on sale on 5 October 1992. They will offer a guaranteed and tax-free return of 6.75% pa compound when held for five years. The Certificates will be sold in units of £100 and the maximum purchase will be £5,000. In addition, mature Savings Certificates (including Yearly Plan Certificates) may be reinvested into 39th Issue Reinvestment Certificates up to a total of £10,000. 38th Issue Reinvestment Certificates will be withdrawn on 4 October.

FIRST OPTION BONDS

FIRST Option Bonds offering a first year fixed rate of 8.67% gross (6.5% net) will go on sale on 5 October 1992. Bonds of £20,000 or more held to the first anniversary earn a bonus of 0.4% gross (0.3% net).

YEARLY PLAN

The overall return of five-year Yearly Plan agreements is 6.75% pa compound, guaranteed and tax-free, for agreements starting on and from 23 September 1992.

CHILDREN'S BONUS BONDS

Issue D Children's Bonus Bonds will go on sale on 5 October 1992. They will offer a guaranteed and tax-free return of 9.1% pa compound when held for five years.

CAPITAL BONDS

Series F Capital Bonds will go on sale on 5 October 1992. They will offer a gross return of 9% pa compound, guaranteed when held for five years.

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'Death squads' TV researcher held

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

SCOTLAND Yard detectives yesterday arrested a television researcher at the centre of allegations that officers in the Royal Ulster Constabulary colluded with Loyalist death squads in killing republicans. Ben Hamilton was detained at dawn at his home in northwest London by officers from the yard's international and organised crime branch. He was taken to Rochester Row police station, where he was being questioned last night about allegations of perjury following a High Court hearing two months ago.

Mr Hamilton was the principal researcher of a programme called *The Committee* that was broadcast almost a year ago in Channel 4's Dispatches series. It alleged that serving RUC officers had links with Loyalist paramilitaries and were involved in plotting murder.

Eight weeks ago, Channel 4 and Box Productions, the independent production company that made the programme, were fined £75,000 at the High Court for

contempt of court after refusing to disclose the identity of the informant who made the allegation of collusion.

Last night, Channel 4 said the arrest of Mr Hamilton, aged 25, at 6.30am was "wholly unwarranted and oppressive". The company added in a statement that his detention suggests that his "dawn against journalists are back in fashion". It added that it stood by Mr Hamilton and the Dispatches programme.

Scotland Yard said: "We can confirm that a man was arrested this morning at his home address in northwest London by officers from SO1, the International and Organised Crime branch."

The Yard added that the man detained was being interviewed in connection with allegations of perjury after the civil action for contempt.

Mr Hamilton, a single man, was born in South Africa but educated at Westminster School and Balliol College, Oxford. After graduating with a degree in politics, philoso-



Hamilton: questioned on perjury allegations

phy and economics he joined Box Productions four years ago as a researcher. Sean McPhilemy, managing director of Box, said last night: "He is our star researcher. We are immensely proud of him and we have total confidence in him."

He was the main researcher for *The Committee*. The programme alleged that there had been collusion between serving officers in the Royal Ulster Constabulary and Loyalist death squads in Northern Ireland.

The key informant said in the programme that he was one of a 60-strong committee that identified and arranged for the murder of suspected IRA supporters. The source admitted taking part in the planning of murders in Northern Ireland.

In July's High Court hearing, a number of sworn affidavits made by Mr Hamilton and read to the judges included one in which he said he had been told that a deputy chief constable had plotted to kill a number of republicans in the province.

Channel 4 and Box Productions refused to disclose the identity of the source because they had given an absolute assurance that it would be kept secret. Mr Hamilton vowed that he would go to jail rather than disclose the identity of "Source A".

Sir Hugh Annesley, chief constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, denounced the programme and said that the allegations were "an unjust and unsubstantiated slur" on the force.

Mr Hamilton said he was not on the agenda, adding that he was not a witness.

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and Mike Oxlade, 47, Knight

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compens. Cromer roundly declared that Parliament and government shared responsibility

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Defence agency cuts 2,000 jobs to save £90m a year

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

TWO thousand jobs are to be lost at the Ministry of Defence's former research and development establishments in a cost-cutting move intended to save £90 million a year. The redundancies will be phased over two years.

The proposed cuts were announced yesterday by John Chisholm, chief executive of the Defence Research Agency, which took over the running of four non-nuclear research sites in April last year. Several of the agency's facilities are to be closed. Craftsmen, drivers and office workers will lose their jobs, but no scientists will be made redundant.

The agency, which employs more than 10,000 people, has been urgently trying to reduce its annual operating costs of £800 million. The news of the job losses brought angry reactions from trade unions. Derrick Baker, of the GMB general union, demanded a reconsideration of the cost-cutting programme.

"Staff at these establishments were working 24 hours a day during the Falklands and Gulf conflicts," he said. "This is no way to treat them. Some of them were presented with medals by Tom King

WHERE THE JOBS WILL GO

Alverstoke
Bedford Airfield
Christchurch
Cobham
Dunfermline
Empress State Building
Ewinstown
Farnborough (South)
Farnborough East Field
Holkham Heath
Horsea Island
Portland (North and Southwell)
Portsmouth
Royal Arsenal
Slough
Swynerton
Teddington

Hampshire
Bedfordshire
Dorset
Kent
Fife
Earls Court London
Hampshire
West Sussex
Somerset
Hampshire
Dorset
Hampshire
Wokingham (East and West)
London
Berkshire
Staffordshire
London

after the Gulf war and now they are told they are not required. They are being treated with contempt."

Mr Chisholm said that the cuts were necessary to make progress and ensure that the agency had a future as a successful business.

Some of the sites earmarked for closure have carried out important development work. The agency's facility at Christchurch, Dorset, which is now to close, was where the Bailey bridge was invented. The scientists and engineers will be moved to Chertsey, Surrey.

A spokeswoman for the agency, based at Farnborough, Hampshire, said that the aim of the cost-cutting was to reduce the non-industrial

staff, although some engineering craftsmen would also go. "The scientists are our bread and butter," she said.

The Institution of Professionals, Managers and Specialists said there was great concern about the effect the cuts might have on scientific operations. Ron McDowell, the union's development officer, said that the closure of so many sites could disrupt the scientific programme. "There is potential for wrecking teamwork because scientists need high quality craftsmen to back them up."

Nineteen of the 54 sites of the former Admiralty Research Establishment, Royal Aerospace Establishment, Royal Armament Research

and Development Establishment and Royal Signals and Radar Establishment will be handed back to the defence ministry to be sold, including property with a high market value.

One of the areas worst affected by the cuts will be Portsmouth where 390 jobs are to be lost. That could also be the most controversial decision because of high unemployment in the area.

Mr Chisholm said that 12 sites had been earmarked for "significant investment", including facilities at Farnborough, Rosyth and Fort Halstead in Kent.

Frank Dobson, Labour's employment spokesman, said the party and unions had been urging the government for years to diversify defence spending into civilian work. "The government has mocked every proposal we made. Now the chickens are coming home to roost."

Jack Dromey, spokesman for seven industrial unions at the defence ministry, said: "The job losses will throw Britain's finest skills on the dole and disband world-beating research and development teams. Our members feel betrayed."

More job losses, page 17

Open to question: Taylor explains sentence reform

TONY WHITE



Pressing issue: Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, hosts a news conference at the law courts yesterday

JPs regret ending of option to imprison

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

MAGISTRATES are concerned that they will have inadequate powers to deal with persistent offenders under legislation coming into force tomorrow.

The central aim of the legislation, the Criminal Justice Act 1991, is to ensure that "punishment fits the crime" and to reserve custody for serious, violent offenders.

Until now, magistrates have considered previous convictions when deciding sentence. The act rules that out, except in certain circumstances, stating that courts cannot regard an offence as more serious because of past convictions.

Joyce Rose, chairman of the 28,000-strong Magistrates' Association, said: "The philosophy of the act is excellent —

that is, keeping people out of prison who should not be there, and magistrates have always tried to do this. But there is concern about the persistent petty offender. There always used to be a custodial-based penalty as a last resort. Sometimes one has to say, 'we cannot do more... they should go inside'."

"The public will find it very difficult, when faced with a stream of offences such as repeated shoplifting which has caused great nuisance, to find that, at the end of the road, the offender will not go inside."

The extent to which the act did allow courts to take into account previous offences was a "very grey area" awaiting guidance from the Court of Appeal, Mrs Rose said. "There will have to be a lot of working through, a lot of interpretation," she said.

Mrs Rose also expressed concern over whether the probation service would have enough money to provide the community-based penalties that the act expects to be used for an increased proportion of offenders. "If these penalties are simply not there, or insufficiently resourced, magistrates cannot use them," she said.

The act has, however, been welcomed by penal reform bodies. Paul Cavadino, of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, said: "The act embodies a just and desirable principle. The offender has already been punished for earlier offences. He or she now faces a punishment commensurate with the seriousness of the new offence."

"To top-up that punishment because of past wrongdoing, for which the offender has already paid the penalty, is to punish him twice for the same offence."

The act enabled courts to link existing provisions of probation and community service to impose "more intensive combinations of community penalties than at present". These were far from soft options, Mr Cavadino said. Used appropriately, they were much more likely to steer offenders away from crime.

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Leading article, page 13

Burden on jails eased

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A CHANGE in sentencing policy from tomorrow will mean more offenders serving their punishment in the community rather than in jail. The government has accepted penal reformers' arguments that imprisonment is an expensive way of dealing with less serious offenders and that it rehabilitates few and harms many.

Reformers say that the prisons' sub-culture reinforces offending behaviour and can frustrate attempts at rehabilitation because it breaks links with family, friends, housing and employment.

Home Office figures show that it costs an average £386 a week to keep a person in jail, £610 for an average eight-month community service order, £1,100 for a 12-month probation order without conditions, and £6,900 for a one-year probation order with a

six-month condition of residence in a registered hostel.

Under the act, courts will be encouraged to replace prison sentences with community punishment, which can include fines, work and counselling.

Ministers hope that the new system will help to convince a sceptical public and some within the Home Office that community punishment is not a soft option. Much of that task falls to the probation service, which in 1990 was dealing with 93,000 people but from tomorrow has an enhanced role in supervising offenders.

Jenny Roberts, chair of the Association of Chief Officers of Probation, said: "Unlike the police, we have been nervous about entering the highly charged law and order debate. We must explain our work to the public."

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Labour leader vows to end 'spiral of decline' in Britain

By Philip Webster and Robert Morgan

IN HIS first speech to the Labour conference as leader, John Smith combined a fierce personal attack on the prime minister with a promise to give Britain leadership and to help people feel their voice was being heard and their needs were no longer ignored.

He promised that Labour would fill the vacuum left in public life by 13 years of Tory rule.

In a well-received speech Mr Smith outlined his vision of an active government, standing up for the people and meeting its responsibilities, not running people's lives for them but helping them to live their own lives to the full.

Under him Labour would continue to be inspired by the values of individual opportunity and social justice. The British people wanted to be citizens of a country that showed care for all its people and did not pass by on the other side.

Mercilessly exploiting the government's economic difficulties, Mr Smith devoted a big passage of his speech to a

restatement of his strong pro-Europeanism, which he said the events of recent weeks had done nothing but reinforce. He contrasted his own vision of a government prepared to act for the people with a government wracked by indecision and paralysed by fear.

"Active government is what Britain needs today," the Labour leader said. "And it needs it urgently if we are ever going to lift ourselves out of this downward spiral of decline." Government should not run people's lives, he said, nor companies nor small businesses, but it had to create the conditions for them to prosper. "Good government, active government, lies at the very heart of a fair, a prosperous and a free society."

They had to build homes that people could afford to end the misery of bed and breakfast accommodation and to get the building industry working again. They had to take action for young people to

give them the skills they needed.

"A government that leaves training to the vagaries of the private sector puts school-leavers and workers at the mercy of people whose priority is profit and whose interests are short-term."

They had to preserve strategic assets such as the coal reserves. The plentiful remaining reserves gave Britain an edge over most of its European competitors, yet the government intended to abandon half the remaining pits. It was vandalism, he said, because it would destroy a national asset which could meet Britain's long-term energy needs.

An active government, Mr Smith said, provided efficient and caring public services. "That is why we are committed to a National Health Service that is free at the time you need it. We will never abandon that principle because it is the only way to ensure that all patients get the treatment they need and not the treatment they can afford."

Active government, he said, meant strengthening the rights of people at work. "We believe the rights of workers are best advanced through the work of free and active trade unions with whom we in our party are proud to be linked."

He was loudly cheered as he restated Labour's commitment to devolution. Decisions had to be taken closer to the people. That was why there had to be a Scottish parliament, a Welsh assembly and devolution of power to the regions of England.

"I look around Britain today and I see millions of families who instead of feeling that they are moving forwards, are struggling to stay in the same place," Mr Smith said.

It was a time of great pessimism throughout the Western world, with people feeling government had neither the means nor the will to deal with what lay ahead. "More than anything today Britain needs leadership," he said. "Labour is going to provide that leadership."

Two weeks ago, Mr Smith said, confronted with a sterling crisis of its own creation, the country had seen a government gripped by indecision, paralysed by fear and a prime minister plodding on to disaster. John Major had only one policy - wait and see.

"The opt-out prime minister leading a do-nothing government off the European stage. So much for being at the heart of Europe. We were promised a New Statesman and what have we got instead? The Spectator."

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Conference veteran: Michael Foot listens to debate that will decide the course of the party he once led

Fees may be means tested

By Jill Sherman
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour party is to set up pilot studies to examine means tested subscription fees as part of a drive to increase membership and ease the party's financial difficulties.

As plans to raise the fees to £18 came under attack from conference delegates, John Evans, the conference chairman, said the pilot studies would look at different ways of campaigning and varying subscription levels.

The moves follow a drop in membership to 261,000, its lowest post-war level, and debts of nearly £2 million. The NEC has already approved plans to cut spending by 30 per cent next year, which will result in staff cuts. Mr Evans said the party's income had dropped in real terms by 20 per cent since 1979. Part of this was due to a fall in trade union membership - by a third in 13 years - and to the high costs of the general election campaign.

If the conference failed to approve the £3 rise in full fees and a 10p rise to £1.70 in affiliated fees, further cuts would have to be made in the party organisation, he said.

Delegates claimed that the £15 subscription was already stopping Labour supporters from joining the party, and any hike in rates would deter women and low earners.

Smith postpones decisions

By Nicholas Wood and Robert Morgan

POLICY

Labour's "worship" of the image-makers and deplored the lack of socialist principles in its message to the voters at the election.

On a show of hands, the conference approved *Agenda for Change*, a new document setting out revised procedures for policy-making. Labour will shortly set up a national policy forum made up of 100 people drawn from all wings of the party. Real power will reside with an inner group of 16 national executive committee and shadow cabinet members known as the joint policy committee.

Although recommendations from the policy forum will eventually be voted on by the conference, activists protested yesterday that it would be relegated to being a rubber stamp for decisions taken by a leadership cabal.

programme are proving popular and successful. Mr Smith wants to postpone a verdict. He has decided to run the gauntlet of Tory jibes that Labour stands for nothing.

The holding operation should dovetail with a revised approach to policy-making approved yesterday by the conference, despite a despairing howl of anger from some party activists. The grassroots attempt to halt the shake-up was defeated on a card vote by 4,340,000 to 1,045,000, a platform majority of 3,295,000.

In a speech opposing the leadership's plans to dilute the conference's role in policy formulation, Teresa Pearce from Erith and Crayford was applauded as she condemned

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Rail strikes threat in privatisation battle

By Arthur Leathley and Peter Victor

BRITISH Rail was threatened with industrial action yesterday, as union leaders and Labour united in a campaign to stop railways privatisation.

In a speech to the conference, John Prescott, the shadow transport secretary, signalled the launch of a winter offensive to discredit government plans to split the railway network into separate companies. He dispelled doubts among some union officials over whether Labour was wholeheartedly committed to total opposition to the privatisation programme.

Derrick Fulkick, general secretary of ASLEF, the train drivers' union, voiced concern that Labour had not yet forced privatisation on to the political agenda and warned delegates of the threat of industrial action. "Transport took a back seat in the last election, but transport issues can win votes and put our party back in the driving seat. It's a battle Labour must grasp now - a campaign to fight between now and the next general election." The white paper on BR privatisation contained no mention of increased investment for safety, he said. "That's why ASLEF says if trains are unsafe, we won't run them. We can't rule out industrial action."

Mr Prescott responded with a commitment to a long-running publicity drive to

expose the weaknesses of the rail system. His performance earned him a standing ovation and unanimous conference support for the campaign. The service had become "dirty, expensive and unreliable" and would decline further in private hands, he said. He attacked BR for its advertisements for managers to co-ordinate privatisation. There was delight in the conference hall when he pointed out the stipulation: "Knowledge of public transport not essential."

One big union after another pledged support in the campaign to highlight what they claim will be safety risks attached to a newly privatised system. The campaign will also target what Labour says will be the "serious implications" of fare rises, reductions of services and increased overcrowding. Labour sees the debate over privatisation as an opportunity to make railways as embarrassing an issue for the government as the poll tax.

Jimmy Knapp, of the transport workers' union RMT, claimed that fare increases planned by British Rail and the transport department, already claimed to be up to 60 per cent, would be "no less than 142 per cent to facilitate privatisation".

Speech fails to challenge party prejudices

John Smith missed an opportunity yesterday. He reinforced the instincts of his party rather than challenged its prejudices. His low-key speech gave the conference delegates in Blackpool what they wanted to hear.

Trying to present himself as a prime minister in waiting, Mr Smith attacked the government and, significantly, focussed on John Major's personal responsibility for the current disarray. He also offered a lengthy exposition of his personal vision, firmly rooted in his Scottish background. But he barely acknowledged that Labour had lost the election on April 9 and gave little hint about what the party now needs to do to win.

Mr Smith confirmed the worries of even some of his senior shadow cabinet colleagues that while, intellectually, he understands what is required, he is likely to be cautious about acting to change the party. He is decisive when he has made up his mind, but takes time to be persuaded. "John will wait to fire until the target is bang in the centre in his sights," one said.

The Labour leader said he did not believe that the Tory victory was "in any way a positive endorsement by the British people". He denied it was a vote of confidence, rather it was a reluctant vote, now regretted by many.

That is a dangerous illusion. Labour improved its position on April 9, but only to its third worst showing in 60 years, and its share of the

vote was still seven percentage points behind the Tories. There is little comfort for Labour in subsequent sociological studies on, for instance, in this week's report from the Fabians on the attitudes of wavering voters in the South-East who considered supporting Labour but who, in the end, backed the Tories. They all suggest that Labour is regarded as the party of losers and as not recognising the aspirations of the upwardly mobile, the newly affluent and first-time homebuyers.

Labour has to change considerably if it is ever to win again. The party must no longer be seen as dominated by the trade unions. It has to create a mass membership, as Gordon Brown and Tony Blair have urged so often. That means the party has to behave differently, to be less inclusive. It also has to recognise public worries about taxation and the operations of government.

There was barely any mention of these questions in Mr Smith's speech, apart from a reiterated promise to set up a special commission on social justice later this year to tackle income, wealth distribution, poverty, social welfare policy and taxation in a comprehensive way.

Instead, Mr Smith concentrated on offering a classic restatement of Labour values, presenting the party as a force for social justice and change. It was language which Clement Attlee would have understood. He talked of a society where there were limits on the role of markets and governments were active, helping industry, creating jobs and boosting housing. The post-war welfare state lives on. He did not say how it would be financed.

Similarly, Mr Smith did not mention current changes in the structure of government - the impact of the purchaser/provider divide, of contracting-out and of competition in the provision of public services. Labour has yet to come to terms with the revolution now affecting much of the public sector. He did not suggest what was meant by the attack on vested interests which Messrs Brown and Blair have made one of their main themes.

Labour officials argue that yesterday was not the time for new ideas and that what matters is the new policy-making machinery which the conference is setting up, as well as changes in party structure to be agreed in a year's time. Mr Smith is right not to make premature policy commitments.

But "watch this space" is not a sufficient answer. Unless the party is confronted now with the bleak lessons of April's defeat, it will not take the right actions over the next year or two. Mr Smith needed to be brutal rather than bland yesterday.



Smith: pleasing the ghost of Clement Attlee

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The ups and downs of a Chancellor whose exit from the ERM set him singing in the bath

The Tories' own Houdini faces a fall

By PETER RIDDELL
POLITICAL EDITOR

THE FUTURE

NORMAN Lamont has sought to be the Harry Houdini of finance ministers, leaving his previous pledges behind like discarded chains and hoping to win the applause of the crowd for his dexterity. Agile though his performance was immediately after the forced withdrawal of the pound from the exchange-rate mechanism two weeks ago, he is now starting to trip up over the resulting contradictions between economic, political and European obligations.

The political question is whether Mr Lamont any longer has authority to restore the faith of the markets and the public in the government's economic strategy and to carry through these tough public spending decisions.

Much will depend on his reception at next week's Conservative party conference. He may survive in the short-term to make the Autumn Statement in November. He may not, however, remain Chancellor of the Exchequer much longer than that. More probable is that, like James Callaghan's move from the Treasury to the Home Office after the devaluation of November 1967, Mr Lamont will be switched to another post.

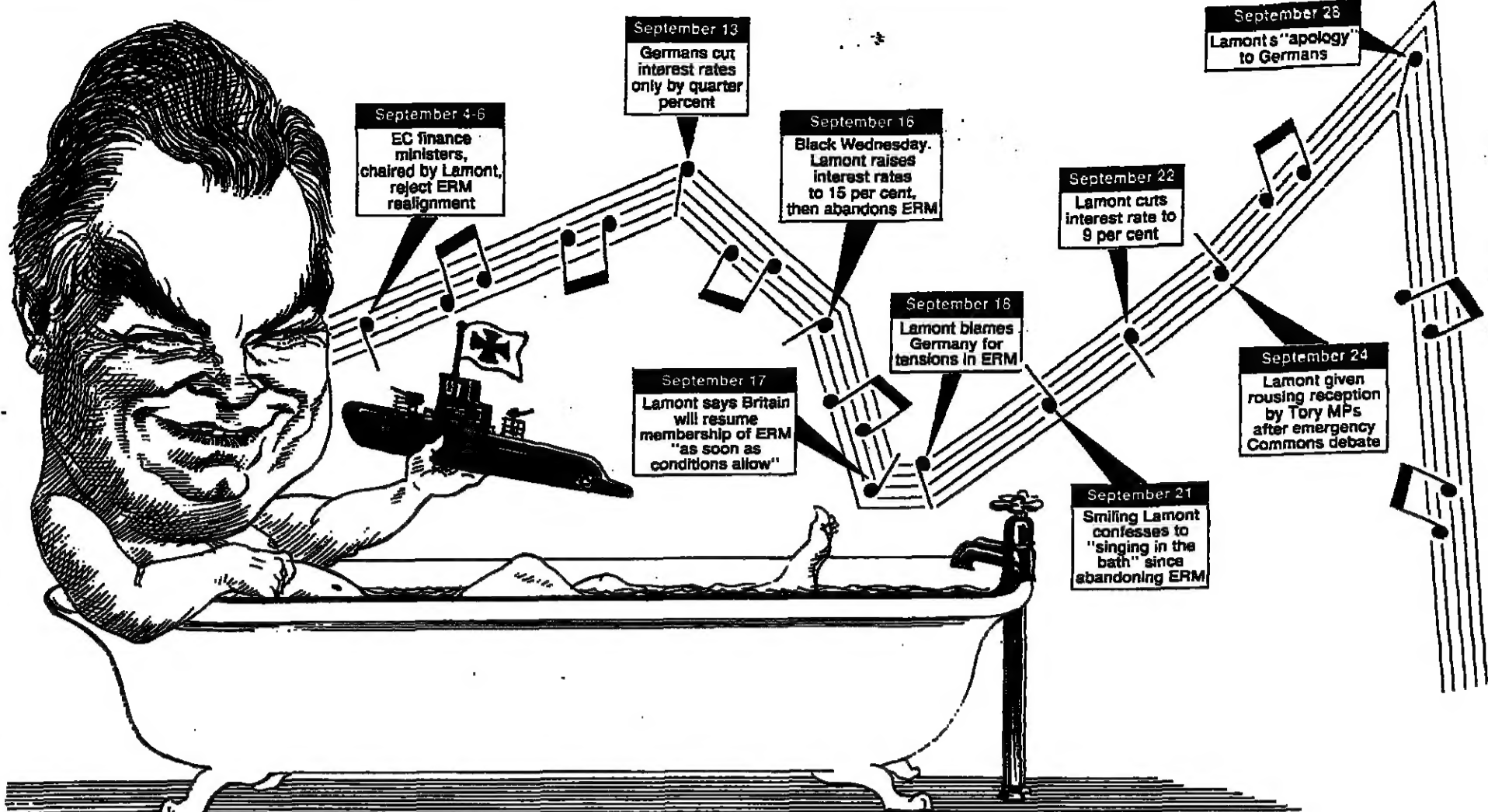
The Chancellor had an uncomfortable time on Monday at the meeting of European finance ministers, where the

majority did not share his belief in the need for reform of the exchange-rate mechanism, and yesterday *The Daily Telegraph*, the Tory activists' house journal, delivered a devastating attack on his credibility.

Mr Lamont's difficulty is that he pledged himself unequivocally to maintaining sterling's parity in the ERM and dismissed out of hand all alternatives, including floating. So anything he has said subsequently has appeared to be a U-turn.

A case can be made for Mr Lamont as the loyal executioner of a policy designed not by him but by John Major. He took over when the recession was already starting and, within these constraints, has produced some original ideas on tax reform, on overhauling the system of public spending control, and on bringing together the tax and spending sides of the state's budget.

Initially, and predictably, as after previous devaluations, there was a public rallying round by the prime minister and the cabinet. Mr Lamont has certainly been resilient, as shown by the bizarre remark about singing in his bath. Then, he sought to make a virtue out of the setback by cutting interest rates and talking about a "British policy in British interests" and suggesting that sterling would stay



policy agreed by the whole cabinet.

outside the ERM for the indefinite future. This attracted the support of the so-called Euro-sceptics, the vocal Tory opponents of the Maastricht treaty and of the ERM, who saw him as an ally against the strongly pro-EC members of the cabinet such as Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine.

In last Thursday's debate, while Mr Major was unsure and defensive, Mr Lamont delivered a powerful winding-up speech, challenging Lab-

our's charge that the alternative of an agreed realignment had been available. He was cheered by the Euro-sceptics in an organised demonstration — underlined by a public endorsement the following day from John Townend, chairman of the Tory backbench finance committee. However, these activities, and muttering by Euro-sceptics against Mr Major, have aroused the suspicions of pro-EC ministers, who are committed to an early return to the

ERM and to ratifying the Maastricht treaty. Underlying these political tensions are questions about economic policy. After his earlier warnings of dire consequences of leaving the ERM, Mr Lamont's attempt to argue both that the earlier approach was too tight — leaving scope now for some relaxation — and that reducing inflation remains a priority have strained credibility. His actions have postponed the date of any return to the ERM. The

markets remain sceptical and, as the governor of the Bank of England gave warning yesterday, the authorities have to be concerned about the level of the pound. There is no scope for a big cut in interest rates. The government's main way of providing reassurance is to stick tightly to the existing public expenditure target of £244.5 billion next year. The initial signals from the new cabinet committee on public spending chaired by Mr Lamont are that meeting this

target will be very difficult. The first cries of pain from the generals and admirals are likely within days, rather than weeks, and cuts are certain in many programmes across Whitehall. Ministers may also have to contemplate higher taxes.

The Tories are discovering that withdrawal from the ERM cannot just be brushed aside as an unfortunate incident for which no one is responsible. Someone will have to pay the price.

Mandarins' delay adds to confusion

By ANATOLE KALETSKY
ECONOMICS EDITOR

TREASURY

THE Treasury may be hard at work in preparing a new economic policy for the Chancellor, but the mandarins are in no hurry to come up with any results. According to Treasury officials, there will be little new information about government economic policy in Norman Lamont's speech next week at the Conservative

party conference. The government's advisers believe that the world should be prepared to wait until October 29, when the Chancellor (who may still be Mr Lamont) delivers his traditional Mansion House Speech to the Lord Mayor of London.

Asked if the six-week delay between the collapse of the old

policy and the announcement of a new one was really necessary, one official admitted it was unfortunate. But the Mansion House speech was scheduled for October 29, and this was the traditional occasion for discussing monetary policy, so the country would just have to wait.

Will this long wait mean that interest rate policy must remain on hold until then? One official said that if the

Chancellor were to decide on another move in interest rates — up or down — the onus would be on the Treasury to provide a justification. Mr Lamont conceded last week that a tightening of fiscal policy might be a *quid pro quo* for sharp cuts in interest rates. But decisions on public spending are traditionally made in the Autumn Statement and that is not delivered until mid-November.

Cold war relic disbanded

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

AN HISTORIC ceremony takes place in Germany on Friday when the 1st British Corps, which was formed in 1901 and became part of an occupying force after the second world war until 1955, is disbanded as one of the last relics of the Cold war.

The British Army of the Rhine, which was formed from Britain's occupation forces at the end of the war, will live on until January 1, 1994. But the British Corps is being merged into a multinational rapid reaction force.

The change in the status of British soldiers serving in Germany will be formally recognised at the ceremony in Bielefeld. As the 1st British Corps disappears, the Allied Command Rapid Reaction Corps will come into being. Lieutenant General Sir Jeremy Mackenzie, British corps commander, will be its commander.

The Germans were furious when the decision to give Britain command of the new corps was first announced. British defence ministry sources stressed yesterday that relations with the German military were excellent. Twelve countries will contribute to the new corps. Apart from the command, Britain will supply a major general as chief of staff, 60 per cent of the headquarters staff and 30,000 troops, ministry sources said.

Bryan Appleyard, page 12
Leading article, page 13

The nameless sources ring round to put right spin on ministerial discussions

Sheila Gunn tells how a few hazy words put government publicists on to red alert

THE government propaganda machine spun into overdrive to put the best possible gloss on Norman Lamont's talks this week with fellow EC finance ministers on the future of the European exchange-rate mechanism.

Extraordinary efforts were made by Downing Street and Treasury officials to dissuade journalists from reporting either the Chancellor's "apology" to the Germans or claims that Britain was isolated in wanting the ERM reformed. Government sources, the nameless individuals employed to feed tidbits to lobby journalists, have been prickly since the collapse of the government's economic and European policies, but they displayed even greater sensitivity over reporting of Mr Lamont's Ecofin meeting in Brussels on Monday. The name of the game is damage limitation.

The latest exercise in news manipulation started at Monday's traditional Downing Street lobby briefing, which does not officially exist. Journalists were told "Split, what split?" in the wake of weekend interviews by three ministers, Michael Howard, Tristan Garel-Jones and John Gummer, in the insistence that the views expressed by all three were in line with government policy.

In the words of one veteran Westminster journalist: "Well, technically, that's true, of course, because we don't know what the government's policies are now."

Then further Tories broke

rank to squabble over Maastricht and the ERM, culminating in comments emerging from Brussels after Norman Lamont's meeting with his fellow EC finance ministers. Europe was once again destined to dominate the front pages of most newspapers and most television news programmes, in spite of a vain hope in Whitehall that the spotlight would fall almost exclusively this week on the

Labour party conference in Blackpool. Bryan Gould's dramatic resignation from the shadow cabinet helped to deflect attention away from John Major's troubles on Sunday, but Labour's own differences have not been able to eclipse ministers' disagreements over their continental counterparts.

Most newspapers received telephone calls from Downing Street on Monday afternoon and were told that John Major had spent three hours discussing domestic reforms for a five-year parliament with cabinet ministers and officials. As in-fighting between top Tories over the Maastricht treaty and

ERM scaled new heights, that was the "sources" way of emphasising that Europe was not the only issue that the prime minister had on his plate.

Later in the evening, Treasury spokesmen went on red alert when television news bulletins reported that, during the five-hour meeting of Ecofin, Mr Lamont had apologised to the Germans for offensive remarks.

The fuss started when Horst Koehler, a German finance minister, complained about "wild accusations and scapegoating" from Britain after it pulled out of the ERM. Mr Lamont commented: "We have had our differences and I am sorry if it has caused offence."

While journalists instantly interpreted "I am sorry" as an apology, the Treasury front men rang national newspapers' newsdesks, insisting that the Chancellor was not making a personal apology but was apologising for criticism in the British press. Their efforts failed to persuade night editors to push the story off their front pages.

By last night, more lobby journalists were abandoning the delights of Labour's gathering in Blackpool to return to home base. In turn, the propaganda machine is gearing up to tell them of "constructive" discussions today between Mr Major and France's President Mitterrand and the Danish prime minister, Poul Schlüter.

Letters, page 13

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FROM TOM WALKER
IN BRUSSELS

SIR John Cope, Britain's Paymaster General, was given a mauling yesterday by MEPs in Brussels, disgusted at being scrubbed by Norman Lamont and left in the dark over the details of Monday's EC finance council.

The attacks on Sir John confirmed the diplomatic isolation of the British presidency of the EC, and the suspicion that EC ministers were not prepared to admit that governments were sliding towards a two-speed Europe. The Chancellor ducked out of the meeting, British officials saying that he had to prepare for next week's Tory party conference.

For two hours, Sir John managed to stonewall all questions from the European parliament's economic and monetary committee, warning them that anything he said about the behind-the-scenes discussions during Monday's meeting could rock the finan-



Sir John: "A great degree of sensitivity"

cial markets. "There is a great degree of sensitivity on what could and should be said."

Naturally, MEPs were not happy with that state of affairs, and threw all manner of vitriol at Sir John. Lyndon Harrison, Labour member for Cheshire West, accused the government of "exploding anti-German sentiment". Alan Donnelly, Labour member for Tyne and Wear, asked Sir John if the government accepted that it

MEPs

would have no more say in the running of finance councils, having ceded control to the French and Germans, and furthermore would he admit that London stood no chance at all of winning the European Central Bank.

On those matters, Sir John referred both members to the House of Commons. But he did insist that the Chancellor had made no apology to Germany on Monday.

Sir John sidestepped many of the more awkward questions by pointing out that he was talking on behalf of the EC, and not just for Britain. "It is no part of my duty to go against the express wishes of finance ministers," he said. Mr Donnelly said the minister's behaviour was quite unacceptable. A German socialist MEP, Dieter Rogalla, tried to lighten the acrimonious exchanges by presenting Sir John with a red and white striped customs post, a tribute

he said to the British president's efforts to create a border-free market.

Sir John admitted that the European Monetary System would not be changed, even at the emergency Birmingham summit in two weeks. "It is not anticipated that operational decisions will be taken at the Birmingham council," he said. "It would be extremely risky of me to say any more than that about it." MEPs were left empty-handed, and there were dark murmurings about "lamentable Lamont and no-hope-Cope".

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Major forced to tread warily in wake of a blundering Lamont

AN AMBASSADOR once defined successful diplomacy as an ability to tell a man to go to hell while making him look forward to the journey. Norman Lamont appears to think that the Chancellor of the Exchequer does not need to be a diplomat. Monday's miserable meeting of EC finance ministers should have taught him that he is wrong.

He bungled a half-baked apology to a German minister and made a hopeless fist of retreating from attempts to change the European exchange-rate mechanism which recently spat out the pound. Mr Lamont should know by now that in Brussels, long and dangerous corridors a minister needs to be armed with either persuasive arguments or enough tact to attract allies.

Because his Chancellor blundered off to Brussels on Monday with neither the prime minister opens today's talks with President Mitterrand of France at a clear disadvantage. The authority of the British EC presidency is shrinking fast.

But Mr Lamont has never liked Brussels and the rules of its 12-dimensional game. Whenever he enters the Chancellery building for a thrilling day of discussing aid to Bulgaria and value-added tax harmonisation he looks like a man who has just bitten into a lemon.

Over last weekend, Lord Tebbit was reported in Germany to have alleged a "conspiracy" by the German central bank to prop up the French franc when no such help had been given to the pound at its time of trouble. Horst Köhler, a German junior finance minister, courteously gave Mr Lamont several hours notice of the understandable complaint he duly made on Monday. To a background of British tabloid

BRUSSELS

George Brock, in this personal view, laments a lack of diplomacy by the Chancellor

rage over Germany's birthday celebrations for the V2 flying bomb, Mr Lamont sympathised with German sensitivities but added that "there have been issues between us".

With that short postscript, Mr Lamont briskly seized the worst of both worlds. He will not take back his nebulous claim that German bankers helped tip the pound off its perch in the ERM, but neither will he detail his charges. While Mr Lamont has been behaving as if exit from the ERM means that he can snub anyone he likes in continental Europe, his German counterparts have been making sure that their case is understood.

The Bundesbank may be unpopular here and there but its analysis of the pound's problems commands respect. The veteran Belgian politician, Wilfried Martens, said the other day, on behalf of five Christian Democrat EC governments, that the ERM works fine and if Britain wants to come back the re-entry rate will have to be negotiable.

Least of all will the common view that Britain is the author of its own misfortunes be changed by vague British talk of German perfidy or "fault lines" in the ERM. Mr Lamont should either put up or shut up: either he can make a case against Bonn and the Bundesbank or he cannot. Since Monday's fiasco reveals that he cannot, he had better gracefully back away.

The price of Mr Lamont's

small-mindedness is visible all over Brussels. Italy shares most of Britain's problems outside the ERM while suffering far worse economic problems. Italy and Spain share Britain's analysis of the ERM's defects, suggested Mr Lamont. Asked about this, Italian officials were prepared to agree with almost anything except that they were in the same camp as Mr Lamont. "We're not blaming the Bundesbank, like some countries I could mention," said one Italian diplomat. Italy's public stance on the ERM is to be anywhere that Britain is not.

If Britain is likely to stay outside the ERM for some time, the business of diplomacy is to minimise the damage caused by the change. Mr Major, who chairs the EC leaders until the end of the year, must broker a deal between Denmark and the rest of the Community, a tricky business in which he will need all the help he can get.

Over reform of the ERM, one EC official said this week, Britain is as isolated as the Dutch government was a year ago when its federalist rewrite of the Maastricht treaty was shot to pieces by eleven other governments. Mr Major and Mr Lamont are suspected of attacking the ERM in a clumsy covert attempt to derail the Maastricht treaty.

ERM agenda, page 1
Useful enemies, page 12
Leading article
and letters, page 13

'No-vote' deals daunting task for Dane

FROM LARS FOYEN IN COPENHAGEN



Luck lustre: Poul Schlüter, whose early achievements some say were due to good luck, now has to steer Denmark back into the European mainstream

AFTER a decade in power, Poul Schlüter, the Danish prime minister, faces his biggest challenge: how to steer his country back into the European mainstream.

When he meets Mr Schlüter this evening, John Major will find a pragmatic conservative who he has survived at the helm of five minority administrations through tactical skill and the lucky timing of a world economic upturn that happened after he came to power on September 10, 1982.

Svend Auken, former leader of the Social Democrats who stood down ten years ago after running up a huge budget deficit, has likened Mr Schlüter to Donald Duck's lucky cousin Gladstone Gander. "Like Donald, the Social Democrats felt they had toiled and moiled only to see everything fall. Then this blow-waved little cousin turns up and all conceivable, but completely undeserved, winnings rain down on him," he said.

But if luck was a factor, Mr Schlüter's run out on June 2 when Danes rejected the Maastricht treaty in a referendum. That not only rocked the European Community but also put Denmark — and Mr Schlüter — in an extremely delicate position.

When Mr Schlüter, 63, son of a wholesale dealer, took office he was derided for his positive attitude and smooth style. Few commentators believed he would survive the rest of that year. But, undaunted by Denmark's problems, which included a huge foreign debt, a weak currency and a sprawling public sector,

he set out to restore fiscal discipline and stabilise the currency.

Mr Schlüter, who has said "ideology is a load of rubbish", has walked a constant political tightrope in forging coalitions to the centre and the right and surviving parliamentary defeats.

The Maastricht treaty is supposed to be approved by all 12 EC members, but in the wake of his countrymen's rejection of it, Mr Schlüter

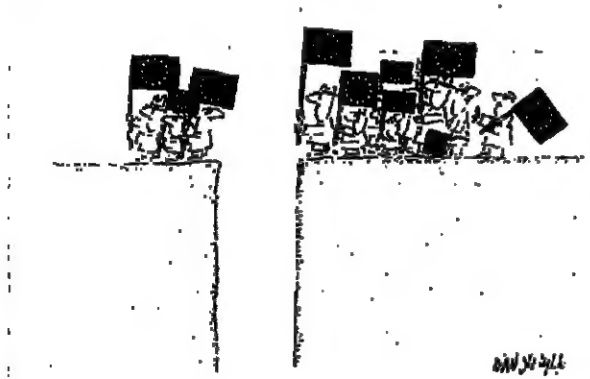
MAN IN THE NEWS

gave little away about his intentions until Monday when he confirmed that Denmark would stay at the heart of the European exchange-rate mechanism.

Domestically, Mr Schlüter has brought down inflation from 10 per cent in 1982 to 2 per cent and turned a 20 billion Danish kroner (£2 billion) current account deficit into a projected surplus of 20 billion kroner this year. But he has failed to ease income taxes, cut welfare state costs or bring down unemployment, now at 11 per cent.

As Denmark's first conservative prime minister this century, Mr Schlüter has not changed society much. "[His] biggest triumph has been the message, successfully hammered home: consensus before combat, responsibility before indifference, stability before constant change... the joy of being Danish," the Danish national daily *Politiken* said.

L&T section, page 1



"Europe divided" — *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*

UK 'rumours' pure fantasy, says Kohl

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

HELMUT Kohl accused Britain yesterday of spreading untrue stories about Franco-German plans for a two-speed Europe.

The German chancellor, in the course of a visit to Luxembourg, said such ideas were fantasy. "There are many rumours... it is like the Loch Ness monster, it keeps reappearing."

Far from suggesting any kind of fast-lane union in his speech, Herr Kohl went out of his way to say: "We want Britain to be with us. We want a Europe of 12, we do not

described as "slandorous" remarks in the Commons. He was outraged by claims made by Lord Tebbit that the Bundesbank had broken the German constitution in joining an exchange-market conspiracy. Such ideas were "wrong, unacceptable and politically untenable", he said. Co-operation in the currency sphere was too important to allow for such charges.

From Herr Kohl's remarks made after the Brussels meeting it is obvious that Germany is not prepared to see any serious changes to the European monetary system.

"We do not know what Great Britain wants," he said. In Germany's view, the system had proved its worth "and there is certainly no reason after the events of the past fortnight to abandon the existing regulations. We would give bad advice if we did not defend the system in such an excitable situation."

In his speech yesterday, Herr Kohl made clear that, despite all the difficulties, he will be pressing for the Maastricht timetable to be followed and for negotiations to enlarge the Community to start next year as planned.

"If we do not seize this historic moment, then it will be a long, long time before we have another opportunity," he said. "Where would we be without European integration? In the end, it is a question of war and peace in Europe."

● **Young racists:** More than a quarter of German youths hold racist views or are open to anti-foreigner propaganda, but another 25 per cent firmly reject any discrimination against foreigners, according to a survey published yesterday in Cologne.

The remaining half of young people between 16 and 24 took no clear stand and could be influenced either way. (Reuters)

GERMANY

want a two-speed Europe." Although the chancellor did not accuse the British government of spreading such rumours, Bonn officials now believe a deliberate disinformation campaign has been mounted to make Germany the scapegoat for Britain's economic difficulties.

A prime example given is the story that the Bundesbank did much more to prop up the franc than the pound during the past month. Frankfurt exchange dealers say that, in fact, the Bundesbank spent far more money in a vain effort to save sterling than it did in helping the franc.

Rumours of this sort created a bad atmosphere at Monday's European Community finance ministers' council in Brussels and prompted Horst Köhler, the usually quiet and polite junior minister at the German finance ministry, to demand an apology from Norman Lamont. He was acting on his own initiative, without prior consultation and, although angered by what he believed was distorted reporting, he was not by any means referring exclusively to the media.

Herr Köhler wanted an explanation for what he

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...the year since Maxwell died. But she insists bonfires are not on the agenda, adding

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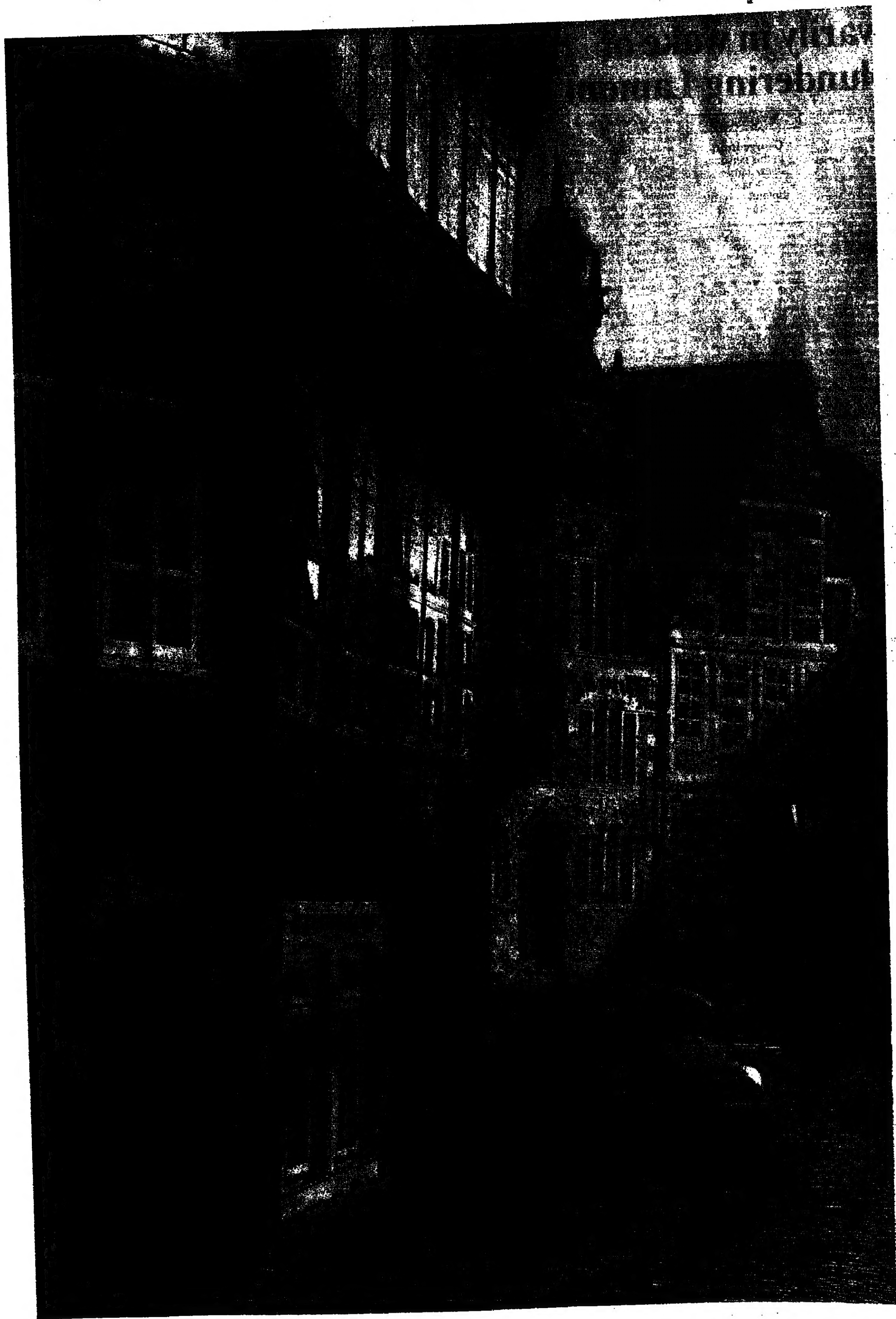
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CAROL LEONARD

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Perot poised to run the final lap as Clinton's lead slips

FROM JAMIE DEITMER
IN WASHINGTON

AS ROSS Perot's followers returned yesterday to their states to consider whether the Texas billionaire should resume his presidential challenge, a new opinion poll indicated that in a three-horse race Governor Clinton's current lead over President Bush could be cut by nearly half.

The latest survey by *The Washington Post* suggests that although the capricious Dallas businessman stands no chance of winning in November, or escaping from a poor third place, he does have the potential to muddy the political waters and set the election on a perplexing new course. According to the poll, a Perot re-entry would leave the president trailing the Arkansas governor by 5 per cent instead of 9 per cent.

Even if the race remains a two-horse one, the poll suggested that Governor Clinton may not be home and dry yet. The 9 per cent lead it gives the Democratic candidate over Mr Bush is sharply down from a week ago when *The Washington Post's* poll recorded Mr Clinton 21 per cent ahead of the president. However, independent pollsters greeted the survey with caution. *The Washington Post's* poll last week differed dramatically from other national surveys which, on average, gave the Arkansas governor a 9 to 10 per cent lead.

What does seem to be certain is that at least a third of



American voters are still undecided. With Mr Perot 48 hours away from clarifying his intentions, there is a feeling of justifiable confusion among pollsters about the impact the Texan could have on the election. Some feel that it could turn the election into a lottery, particularly if Mr Perot's support is concentrated in the key Sun Belt states of California, Florida and Texas. The question the pollsters are struggling to answer is will Mr Perot split the anti-Bush vote or the conservative vote.

At this late stage in the race, state-by-state polls are more likely to give an accurate picture of the electoral map than nationwide surveys. Few public state polls have been conducted since the Texas started to flirt with the idea of rejoining a race he so abruptly left 75 days ago.

Mr Perot's possible re-entry into the race is also adding a further twist to the continuing problem of getting Mr Bush and Mr Clinton to agree to a debate. Hoping to break the impasse between the Demo-

crats and Republicans over the traditional encounter, the bipartisan commission on presidential debates called on the Bush and Clinton camps to start negotiating directly with each other.

Facing the likelihood of having to cancel Sunday's scheduled debate in San Diego, the third of four proposed encounters, the commission is now urging the two sides to reach their own agreement. The Republicans are still adamant that they will not accept the format proposed by the commission.

Bush campaign advisers have only wanted one presidential debate and have not been comfortable with the commission's plan of replacing the normal panel of three journalists with a single moderator as they fear this would allow the two candidates to spar directly. Mr Clinton is considered faster on his feet. The Clinton camp has accepted the commission's proposals but has not been prepared to enter into direct negotiations with the Republicans.

With neither side prepared to budge, the prospect of any face-to-face debates taking place has been fading fast. But with Mr Perot's possible re-entry, both camps may now have more reason to agree to a debate quickly. The Texas indicated on television yesterday that if he announces his candidacy, he would be keen to be included in any presidential debate. Under the commission's rules, Mr Perot, who is on the ballot in all 50 states, would probably qualify for a place. If the Democrats and Republicans can agree on a format and dates, they could write Mr Perot out of the encounters.

Mr Perot said in an interview yesterday that if the San Diego debate goes ahead and he decides to run, he would show up. "If you are in the game, you have to play the game," he said. He is clearly enjoying being back in the limelight and has a series of television interviews scheduled for the rest of the week. He insisted yesterday that his return to the national political scene was dictated by his followers in the United We Stand organisation, a political network he set up and financed when he quit the race in July. "This is driven from the bottom up. There is no messianic drive here," he remarked. But his claim that he is merely an instrument of his supporters would seem to be at odds with the rigid control he maintains over the United We Stand organisation, which is very much a corporate creature run by employees from his own firms.

The top-level Democrat and Republican delegations, which travelled to Dallas on Monday and met Mr Perot and his followers, seemed to have failed to convince the Texas billionaire's supporters that it would be a mistake for them to organise an independent presidential challenge.

His supporters left Dallas indicating that they were keen to see him re-enter the race. Mr Clinton and President Bush took to the campaign trail again yesterday. The Democrat went to Louisville, Kentucky, while Mr Bush took the fight to Tennessee.

Dollar plummets, page 17



Nearly man: Ross Perot and his family appearing on the *Larry King Live* television programme. Mr Perot has given his supporters until tomorrow to decide whether they want him to re-enter the race for the White House

Forget blacks at your peril Jackson tells Democrats

NO speaker in America matches the Rev Jesse Jackson for voltage. In benighted inner Detroit, from which those who can afford to have fled, the black preacher-politician brought inspiration this week.

He prayed, exhorted and harangued. He roared, he whispered, speaking in rhythms. "Amen," voices cried, to home truths about drugs, violence and teenage motherhood. The all-black throng stood, stamped and chanted his staccato words: "I am — somebody. Respect me. Protect me. Never — neglect me. These hands — that once picked cotton — can now pick — presidents."

Mr Jackson had come to encourage black voter registration in the presidential election. He barely mentioned Bill Clinton. In an interview on his bus, the former contender for the Democratic presidential nomination refused to discuss his relations with Mr Clinton, his party's candidate. At a time of economic distress, "any discussion about us personally is diversionary", he said. "We have a mutually respectful relationship and that is enough." But the two men's ill concealed animosity is highly pertinent.

Blacks comprise 11 per cent of the national electorate, far more in key southern and Midwestern states. They are overwhelmingly pro-Democrat, but what matters is how many bother to vote. In a close contest, especially if Ross Perot

In wooing the blue-collar vote, Bill Clinton is taking a big risk, Martin Fletcher in Detroit writes

re-enters the race, black voters could determine the outcome. In his desire to distance himself from Mr Jackson, Mr Clinton has been inattentive to this constituency. The Clinton strategy became clear last June. To defeat President Bush he had to win back Reagan Democrats, those blue-collar white conservatives who defected in the 1980s largely because of what they believed was the Democrats' subservience to minorities. Mr Clinton had to prove he would not make obeisance to Mr Jackson as his predecessors had felt compelled to do. At a convention of Mr Jackson's Rainbow Coalition, Mr Clinton pointedly denounced the black rap singer Sister Souljah for advocating violence against whites.

The two men, never close, have barely spoken since. Mr Jackson flirted with Mr Perot, then gave Mr Clinton a chilly endorsement at the Democratic convention. Mr Clinton reluctantly appeared at a black Washington rally ten days ago and performed a bizarre manoeuvre around the stage, vainly seeking to avoid the

embrace of Mr Jackson, who called him "Mr Bill".

Mr Clinton abhors racism, but until recently had attended few black events and campaigned in few black neighbourhoods. He has emphasised the reform of the welfare system, an issue with racial undertones. He knows black voters have nowhere else to go, hopes their turnout will be boosted by congressional races involving blacks, and is off-setting Mr Jackson's coolness by using other black leaders such as John Lewis, a congressman and civil rights hero.

Mr Clinton has opted for a risky strategy, as Mr Jackson emphasised. Black participation in this year's primaries was down a third on 1988. Asked if blacks were galvanised by the campaign, Mr Jackson replied "some segments are", adding that "embrace inspires enthusiasm while distancing discourages it". He said Mr Clinton had spent too little time "nurturing and inspiring those who never left", although "advertisements" were now being made.

Mr Jackson insisted that he had "travelled more miles, registered more voters and excelled Clinton's name" more than any other Democrat, but his motives are not wholly selfless. He is a compulsive performer. Most important, Mr Clinton has promised statehood for the District of Columbia, which would make Mr Jackson, its shadow senator, a power on Capitol Hill.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Doctor shot dead on motorway

Johannesburg: A German doctor working at a Soweto hospital was shot dead yesterday on a motorway here (Michael Hamlyn writes). In two incidents on another motorway, a white woman and a white man were shot at.

The African National Congress protested at the freeing of Barend Strydom, a white murderer, and said his release was not part of its recent deal with Pretoria. Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the leader of Inkatha Freedom Party, met Lucas Mangope, leader of Bophuthatswana, and Brigadier Joshua "Oupa" Gqozo, of Ciskei, to co-ordinate opposition to the Pretoria-ANC deal.

Angola votes

Luanda: Angolans went to the polls on the first day of voting in the first free elections with an air of quiet and confident responsibility. Shops and businesses closed for the poll.

Peace rejected

Rome: Afonso Dhlakama, the Mozambican rebel leader, is refusing to sign a peace settlement that was due to end 16 years of civil war in the famine-stricken country. (Reuters)

Guerrilla raid

Beirut: Hezbollah guerrillas killed six people, including an Irish soldier in the UN peace-keeping force, when they attacked four South Lebanese Army posts in Israel's so-called security zone.

Prints found

Amsterdam: A museum here has found six silent films in its archives that are probably the only surviving prints of early Walt Disney films. They were made before 1927. (Reuters)

Brazilians clamour for fall of Collor

FROM GABRIELLA GUMINI
IN BRASILIA

THOUSANDS of people turned out on the streets of Brasilia to listen to President Collor de Mello's fate on public loudspeakers as congressmen began voting yesterday on whether to remove him from power and authorise the senate to begin an impeachment trial.

"We want Collor out of government by tomorrow," said one citizen outside the congress building in Brasilia, holding up one of many banners declaring "Fora Collor (Collor out)".

If two-thirds of the 503-seat chamber of deputies agree to authorise impeachment, Senator Collor, who is accused of taking millions of dollars in a corruption scandal involving his former campaign manager, will be forced out of office for 180 days and face a trial in the senate. He has to be found guilty of "irresponsibility in office" in the senate before he can be removed from office permanently.

Although the president's supporters insist that they have the 168 votes required to crush any demands for impeachment, analysts predict that Senator Collor's days in power are numbered. "The president has totally lost credibility, not just with the public but also with leading businessmen and even in the international community," a Western diplomat said.

Former sympathisers, too, have turned against the 43-year-old president, the first democratically elected head of state in 29 years. "It would be political suicide to vote against impeachment, the popular feelings against Collor are too strong," José Sarney, a former president, said. "People are watching their deputies as they vote."

The scandal erupted four months ago when the president's brother, Pedro, told the press that the president used his campaign treasurer, Paulo Cesar Farias, as a front man for private business ventures. Although he later retracted his statement, his allegations led to a congressional enquiry, which concluded that the president had pilfered at least \$26 million (£15 million) for himself and his family. He was accused of using \$12 million of public funds to landscape the garden at his Brasilia house and buying property abroad. The enquiry also uncovered a network of bank accounts in the names of friends and family, to which Senator Farias transferred money that had been left over from election funds received from businesses during the 1989 elections.

"This totally contradicted Collor's anti-corruption image which he emphasised during the election. That's what turned people against him," David Fleischman, a University of Brasilia professor, said. "Funds left over from the campaign were meant for the public, especially in a country where more than half the people live below the poverty line," he said.



Collor: fate rests on congressional vote

Haiti pines for return of people's president

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN PORT-AU-PRINCE

ONE year after Jean-Bertrand Aristide, Haiti's first democratically elected president, was forced into exile by a military coup the country is gripped by an eerie mixture of hope and fear.

There is a fervent hope that Father Aristide, a Roman Catholic priest and champion of Haiti's slum dwellers and rural peasantry, will reappear magically in the country for today's anniversary of his overthrow. But the more prevailing mood is fear of continued repression by the military leaders, who have brutally stamped out almost all public expression of support for the popular priest.

Father Aristide won 67 per cent of the vote in elections in December 1990 and a recent poll showed that 80 per cent of Haitians want him back as president. International human rights observers estimate that more than 1,000 people have been killed by the armed forces since the coup on September 30, last year, in a campaign to silence supporters of Father Aristide.

"The problem in Haiti now is the total collapse of even the notion of right," said Antoine Adrien, 70, the head of a presidential commission se-

lected by Father Aristide to negotiate his return from exile. Father Adrien is a highly respected priest, also noted for his work with the poor, who was exiled for 15 years until 1986 during the Duvalier family dictatorship. "There is not even a semblance of law," he added. "The law is what a little soldier in a given corner of a given street on a given day at a given moment in a given mood, decides is the law."

Father Adrien said the commission has not met representatives of the military-backed government of Marc Bazin since preparatory talks in Washington a month ago. He rejected as "absolutely unacceptable" reports that the military would agree to reinstate Father Aristide as president if he remained in exile and an American economic embargo against Haiti was lifted.

Efforts were made yesterday to broadcast live in Haiti Father Aristide's address to the United Nations General Assembly. Last night a Haitian television channel was due to show a US-made documentary called *Killing the Dream*, about the overthrow of democracy. But there were doubts that the military would permit it to be shown.

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AMERICAN NOTEBOOK by Ben Macintyre

Royal soap offers America a class act

Several million Americans tuned in, and several thousand expatriate Britons must surely have frayed out, to *Fergie and Andrew Behind The Palace Doors*, a made-for-television film about the marital problems of the Duke and Duchess of York which was aired for the first time on American television on Monday night.

The American film, shot on location in Britain, provided a remarkable insight — not into the facts behind this particular saga, which everyone knows or thinks they know by now — but into America's enduring love of British class stereotypes. At the start of this uniquely squirm-inducing film Sarah Ferguson (played by Pippa Hinchley) bounds onto the set saying things like "I'm always up for a bit of sport," "Bit of a giggle, what?" and "What a hoot."

The NBC film is highly sympathetic to the Duchess of York, portraying her as a strong-willed, passionate woman abandoned by her husband and brought down

by palace intrigue. Prince Andrew (played by Sam Miller) appears to have brain-damage. "One feels six miles taller when one is at sea," he says. "I leave the affairs of state to Charles."

In a doomed attempt to keep up with real life, the film ends with a particularly beastly courtier making a heavy-handed allusion to the

duchess "taking off her shirt" on holiday, a scene that would no doubt have been filmed if the timing had been better.

The critics sniffed. "You can smell the difference," they said, referring to the first issue of *The New Yorker*, America's most prestigious magazine, to be

edited by 38-year-old Tina Brown, the British-born journalist whose transfer from the glossy magazine *Vanity Fair* to *The New Yorker* has caused some to panic in New York's literary circles.

Sure enough, hold the new issue to your nose and there is the unmistakable scent of scum, from a scratch and sniff advertisement for perfume that would never have been there in the old days.

To all but the most diehard reader the new magazine may appear little different from the old one. Certainly it is fatter, the type is larger and there is more colour. The new *New Yorker*, said *The Washington Post*, "represents the most dramatic reworking of the magazine's appearance in its 67 years."

However, it has lost the faintly soporific air that made it a staple of the dentist's waiting-room and a useful pre-drilling relaxant. All over New York yesterday could be heard the sound of angry dentists cancelling their subscriptions.



Royal pretenders: Sam Miller and Pippa Hinchley star in NBC's television film about the Yorks

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Balkan atrocities fail to galvanise America

ACCOUNTS of Serbian atrocities circulating in Washington will harden the American administration's policy on Belgrade, but the Americans are still a long way from launching a direct attack in the Balkans or even making a big contribution to the peacekeeping force in Yugoslavia.

The State Department now claims to have confirmation that about 3,000 Bosnian Muslims were massacred by Serbs in "ethnic cleansing" in May and June. Atrocities and reports of varying degrees have been compiled and published in the West throughout the summer.

The latest account, however, is different because it suggests that analogies with the Nazi Holocaust were not wholly exaggerated. The State Department has two independent accounts that suggest that Muslims were shot in clusters

Europe is disillusioned with the failure of the US to commit troops to peacekeeping duties in the Balkans, Roger Boyes, East Europe correspondent, writes

of 50 and then cremated at an agricultural waste factory in Serb-occupied terrain. That is an horrific, emotive image which (true or not) is certain to influence United States public opinion and lead to a further toughening against Belgrade in the run-up to the presidential elections.

The administration has been much criticised by the Europeans, especially by the French, for not having a coherent policy in the Balkans. President Bush is set against committing ground troops to the peacekeeping operation and has been reluctant even to commit Awaacs surveillance

aircraft. Because these reconnaissance aircraft would not be vulnerable to attack and could enhance the safety of aid flights and convoys, there has been some disillusion in European chancelleries.

In recent talks in London and Paris, Richard Cheney, the United States defence secretary, told America's allies that Washington was not planning an "October surprise", that is, a military operation in either the former Yugoslavia or Iraq before the election on November 3.

Indeed, the administration is stopping far short of such martial drama. Instead, there

are vague signals that, at some future date, America might consider force against Serbia. The vagueness is partly deliberate — to deter the Serbs from spreading war to Kosovo or Macedonia — but it also seems to disguise the absence of a real Balkan policy. The betting, therefore, is that the latest atrocity stories will focus American anger on Belgrade but that they will not prompt any deeper commitment from the Americans.

The result, increasingly apparent, is that the French are taking the lead in international policy in the region. Although 1,800 British soldiers are being committed to protect United Nations aid convoys, the most active contingent is that of the French.

The soldiers have been given the same rules of engagement as the British, but they are led more confidently.

Eight French soldiers from UN contingents have been killed in the former Yugoslavia so far. The quick visit to Sarajevo of President Mitterrand was a key marker: the Germans, although noisy about Yugoslavia, are unable to back their words with force; the British, nervous of a long-term Balkan engagement, are entering the fray with great reluctance; and America has a presidential election.

● **Aid for children:** A movement has started in Oranjestad, in the Caribbean island of Aruba, to try to bring a few dozen children who have been orphaned by the Yugoslav war to the island to be adopted by local families.

A group of 28 married couples and some single people, who are seeking to adopt the children, met on Sunday to discuss plans. The Aruba board of ministers

unanimously approved the project last week.

"We are looking to adopt those children who have been transferred to orphanages in Germany," said Suzi Kook, a petrol station manager who started the movement a few months ago after watching television pictures of the shelling of a bus that was transporting children to an orphanage in Germany.

"I believe the principal message here is that the entire world must take notice of something like this. A small group can make a difference in the lives of these children. It can be done."

Because Aruba is such a small community, it is difficult if not impossible to adopt local children. There are continuous problems with family members harassing adoptive families, according to adoption officials in Aruba. (AP)

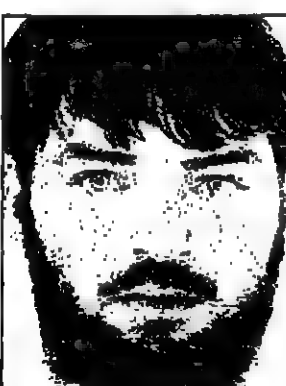
Single market spells trouble for Italy's new Mafia judge

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

LILIANA Ferraro, successor to Judge Giovanni Falcone who was assassinated by the Mafia, yesterday expressed satisfaction at the smashing of a Cosa Nostra cocaine smuggling network operating in a constellation of countries, including Britain. But she added that the battle against organised crime was only beginning as a single European market approaches.

"The action we are taking against the Mafia is the only form of defence that we have," Signora Ferraro, Italy's director-general for criminal affairs, said at her Rome office in the ministry of justice where Falcone worked until he was killed by a bomb on the road to Palermo in May, together with his wife Francesca and three police bodyguards.

Signora Ferraro, 48, the first woman to hold such a senior post in the civil service, said: "Our work is beginning to bear its first fruit. But before we can give a decisive blow to the criminal organisations we need time."



Caught: Vincenzo Scarantino, 27, an alleged member of the Kalsa Mafia clan, was arrested yesterday and charged with making the car bomb which killed Judge Paolo Borsellino and five bodyguards last July.

a special ad hoc committee of the 12 member states at director-general level to fight the Mafia, she said. It will meet before the end of the year in Rome or London.

Signora Ferraro welcomed the prospect of Britain on Monday becoming the first country to ratify a European accord on combating money laundering from criminal activities. She said she also hoped for further harmonisation of criminal codes, especially the introduction in other EC countries of the Italian charge "membership of a criminal organisation", a catch-all charge used against Mafia bosses.

But the blonde magistrate, who worked with Falcone for ten years, cautioned that successes in the battle against organised crime should not be overestimated. "We must be very careful not to be deceived by false victories. The error that we committed in the past must not be repeated."

Sicilian investigators yesterday announced the arrest of Vincenzo Scarantino, 27, on charges of preparing the Mafia car bomb that killed Falcone's friend and colleague, Judge Paolo Borsellino, on July 19. The breakthrough was a boost for national morale.

Signora Ferraro, however, noted that the authorities were lulled into a false sense of security in the 1980s after Falcone sent 2,000 Mafiosi behind bars in a series of maxi-trials made possible by evidence from mobsters who became super grasses.

"Cosa Nostra has a board of directors that is most ferocious and determined," she said. "Falcone was certainly the principal target for Cosa Nostra. He was the symbol and for this he had decided there might be a price to pay. It would be mistaken to say he was resigned to his assassination. But Falcone was aware of the determination of the organisation. He knew that once the organisation had decided, its determination was very strong."

"To follow the Falcone method, making our response adequate as we learn how Cosa Nostra functions, is the challenge of the end of this century, a great challenge for all countries," she said.

Another big Mafia assassination of a prominent magistrate or politician in response to the latest moves could not be ruled out. Drawing on a cigarillo, Signora Ferraro said she had come to terms with the prospect that she could be the next Mafia target.

"I hope that I will continue to rationalise the risk. We magistrates have made a decision to work in the state and for the state. I have seen my friends who have done it being killed. I believe it is the just path."

Civil society in Europe is faced with a choice. To defend itself or be occupied.

Signora Ferraro, who is travelling to London for a European Community meeting, said "Operation Green Ice" was an example of the kind of international co-operation needed to combat those who believe that greater European unity will provide them with ample opportunity for laundering money garnered from drug trafficking. She said: "Operation Green Ice is under way in Italy, France, London, São Paulo in Brazil, New York, Canada and Santo Domingo... these are things that evidently have a global dimension, that cannot be neglected. Perhaps people now realise that the problem is not purely Italian or Sicilian."

The EC justice ministry officials' meeting would set up



Crime target: Liliana Ferraro, successor to Italy's murdered anti-Mafia judge, Giovanni Falcone, wants more international co-operation against crime

Gorbachev keeps aura of power

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

IT WAS just like the old days. Mikhail Gorbachev, birthmark emphasised by the lights, strode to the platform and delivered an hour and a half of dire warnings about what would happen to Russia if his view of events was not heeded.

He greeted old hands courteously and kept his best rhetoric for the moments the American TV crews were filming. The expression was sombre and the dark eyes flashed with self-belief. For a moment it was possible to believe we had all been cast back in history and Mr Gorbachev

was still boss. He has managed to retain an aura of power, despite being utterly bereft of it.

There are signs that he has succumbed to the illusion himself for, despite the grandiosity of his pronouncements, his main occupation these days is that of back-seat driver in the Russian chariot of state at whose wheel sits an implacably hostile and headless Boris Yeltsin. Did he feel he had anything in common with Baroness Thatcher in this regard? He smiled mysteriously and said they had both seen a lot of changes and he often

thought of her. He was less gracious about his successor, President Yeltsin was "hasty and unwise" to turn down help from people like him.

Speaking at the think-tank which he runs, he still appears to harbour hopes of a return to political life if the old union is resurrected in some form and said that he did not exclude the possibility of creating his own party. But he is unpopular with ordinary Russians who find his homilies on the virtues of socialism and equality difficult to take when they are still recovering from the blows of communism.



Those who left to try to make a better life in Germany are not well regarded even by many of their peers. Germany will grant Romania DM30 million (£12 million) to help with resettlement, but civil rights groups in the West have denounced the agreement as a victory for the extreme right. There are 430,000 gypsies in Romania according to the last census, but most estimates place the total at between four and five times that figure.

Until the mid-19th century gypsies in Romania were slaves, to be bought and sold as chattels. The gypsy population is divided by social background, economics and language. There are about

two dozen clans based on occupation, ranging from coppermiths to musicians. The gypsy language, originally a form of Sanskrit, has several regional dialects.

Some have suffered badly from the economic reforms in Romania that have triggered soaring inflation and unemployment, but others have prospered under the new economic opportunities. "To be a gypsy is not just an ethnic identity but is also a stigma," Nicolae Gheorghe, vice-president of the International Roma Union, said.

Hatred of gypsies lurks beneath Romania's surface calm

FROM ADAM LEBOR IN BOUTIN DEAL

HAPPY children shout as they play in the street and gnarled old men cycle slowly by in this picturesque mixed gypsy and Romanian village. The scene is one of rural tranquility undisturbed by the political tension unleashed during Romania's elections three days ago.

But under the superficial picture of a pastoral idyll runs a current of prejudice that erupted in intimidation when a mob of 1,000 people, called

by the sounding of the village siren, forced two dozen gypsy families to flee for their lives. They have since sold their houses and left for good.

Since that incident in the spring of last year, Boutin Deal, a village 12 miles from the capital Bucharest, has been quiet. Local people, however, say that any gypsies returning to Boutin Deal under the repatriation agreement Romania signed last week with Germany would not receive an enthusiastic welcome. "Those gypsies in Germany do not want to

work and they went there for an easy life," Radu Nicolae, the deputy mayor, said. "If the ones who come back behave like those who left, we would not accept them. But if they do not, we would give them a second chance."

The accord between Bonn and Bucharest allows Germany to send back the vast majority of the 43,000 Romanians who have tried to use Germany's liberal asylum laws. Only 0.2 per cent of Romanian asylum applications are granted and over half the refugees are gypsies.

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Why be so nasty to the Germans?

We still want to blame foreigners for our faults, says Bryan Appleyard

We need enemies to convince us we are still alive. We need enemies to blame, punish or simply to give us something to do. There is nothing like a common enemy to stir up a dull dinner party, distract a domestic electorate or keep the army off the streets. Norman Lamont needs the Bundesbank (whether he is apologising or not), David Mellor needs the tabloids, Germaine Greer needs Neil Lyndon. Without them there would be just, well, money, sex and gardening.

The urgency of this need can be underestimated. Francis Fukuyama's celebrated thesis that we were approaching the end of history seems to have made this mistake. He suggested that liberal capitalism was ready to bathe the world in peace, affluence and boredom. No more real enemies. The terminal system had been discovered, so all the big, basic conflicts were obsolete. The Cold War was the last show-down, the other guy blinked and then died. In spite of Yugoslavia, the old Soviet empire and the European economies, the theory could still hold. Such turmoil shows there is a lot of history still going on. But Francis Fukuyama could reasonably say that these are not big conflicts since nobody involved is fighting against democratic capitalism. In theory at least they all share the same ideal.

speculates that this ethical collapse will turn America into a Third World country.

The process is mirrored in Europe. A united Germany makes everybody, Chancellor Kohl included, afraid of a rekindled expansionism. They wish, feverishly, to bind themselves tightly to one natural enemy, France, while the other, Britain, finds itself recreating the confrontation of the Thirties. Humiliated economically and frightened politically, we return to the war years. Our statue of "Bomber" Harris and the German celebration of the V2 rocket become heartless symbols of the idea that nothing has changed, nothing has been learned.

In this context the image of the V2 has particular potency. Considered objectively it is an awesome demonstration of the brilliance of German technology and engineering. But, to some of the British, it was precisely that, in 1939, by that, in 1939, fired German strategic hubris and murderous conviction. The V2 cannot be just a rather good rocket.

Princess Diana's Mercedes was not just a foreign car, it was a German car, a peacetime V2

Meanwhile our whingeing and desperate seeking of scapegoats must inspire the same despair in the German imagination as the American attitude does in the Japanese. For both of them that war is over. Forget Pearl Harbour, forget the blitz, this is a different war and they know how to win it. And winning is what they thought they were supposed to do. So precise are these — and many other — recreations of the past that they suggest that, around the world, there is a good deal of 50-year-old unfinished business which cannot easily be sublimated in the grand designs of the United Nations or the European Community.

Economic enemies are not necessarily harmless and healthy if they bring with them the symbolic cultural burdens of history. Princess Diana's Mercedes was not just a car, not just a foreign car, it was a German car, a peacetime V2. Last week's redundancies at Ford and Rolls Royce were, in the anxious British mind, direct hits on innocent civilians.

And it is those redundancies that bring home the dangerous stupidity of the idea of the natural enemy. Amidst all this ancient symbolism and desperate name-calling, thousands, millions of real people are losing real jobs and all we or the Americans seem able to do is resort to the dictator's old trick of finding an external common enemy to distract us.

But the truth is that natural enemies are of no more use to us than fairweather friends. Some Euro-sceptic's dream of glorious British isolation from all this humiliating complexity or even some Europhile's Maastricht fantasy are both hopelessly beside the point. What is wrong is here and now, and the only natural thing about an enemy is the persistent familiarity of its features on the face of our own failure.

A sequel to Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca* may be first-rate, argues Philip Howard

The story continued

Sequels, like sons, are generally reckoned not a patch on their progenitors. So there have been predictable cries of blasphemy from fans of Daphne du Maurier at the news that Susan Hill has been commissioned to write the sequel to *Rebecca*, the romantic thriller that flattered the war generation, and excited them even more in David Selznick's screen version. In fact, with her strong sense of place and spookiness, Ms Hill is a jolly good choice to write daughter of the second Mrs De Winter.

The notion that a sequel is necessarily inferior to its predecessor is quite wrong. Sequels come in all sorts, but generally because the characters in the original version made a great impression on the public, and publishers think they can make money out of resurrecting them — which comes to the same thing. The cult of the sequel has been encouraged by Hollywood, with its pathetic lack of original ideas and its chronic mistrust of writers. This produces a dreadful film like *Mad Max*, and then carries on repeating it ad nauseum. It is a bit like all those Henrys in 1066 *And All That*, from Henry IV "a split king" to Henry VI "a very small king".

Some sequels are indeed feeble epigoni of their originals. You could say that about *Scarlett*, Alexandra Ripley's sequel to *Gone With the Wind*, published last year. You could also say it about *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, which according to tradition was written at the request of Elizabeth I for a play showing Falstaff in love. Although this has its moments of knockabout farce, and elegiac scenes in Windsor Great Park, it does not cut the mustard in the shadow of Falstaff in the two parts of the split king, Henry IV.

I always found James Bond a charmless and snobbish oik. But his fans say that none of the sequels, not even when written by Kingsley Amis, lived up to the glossy charm (invisible to some of us) of the original. Neither *Jo's Children* nor any of the other sequels lived up to the first fine innocent rapture of Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*. Thank heavens we were spared the sequel to *The Fairie Queen*. The successors to *Jaws* were sprats beside the original sabre-toothed, rubber lobster.

But some sequels are better than their originals. *French Connection II* is an improvement on mark one. I think *Alice Through the Looking-Glass* is better than her *Adventures in Wonderland*, but both are so good that they have merged into a seamless Alice saga. I prefer Euripides to Sophocles on Electra. Malory and Tennyson are better on King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table than their rich and multifarious and multilingual sources. That story, the Matter of Britain, is an example of nothing but sequels, with no single identifiable father.

Some good books are prequels, not sequels. In *Wide Sargasso Sea* Jean Rhys did a brilliant revisionist job on Rochester's mad wife in the attic, but it all took place before he met Jane Eyre. All Jane Austen's novels, which end in marriage, are crying out for sequels to find out what happens to the heroines.

With some sequels, glossy airport adventures with such monolithic titles as *Airport*, *Hotel*, *Wheels*, *Rivals*, and *Polo*, to ask whether the sequel is better than the original is to try to settle the point of precedence between a louse and a flea. There is no point. These are carefully packaged mixtures of sex, thrills, greed and envy for an inattentive and thick audience captive in their lap straps.

When sequels do something very different from the original there is no point in comparing them. Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* is a fine

play, but it works on a different stage to that of its mighty original. George MacDonald Fraser's *Flashman* is more fun but in a different genre from his alter ego in *Tom Brown's Schooldays*. The wanderings of Stephen and Molly in James Joyce's *Ulysses* correspond roughly to the episodes in Homer's *Odyssey*. It is a sequel of sorts, but it is an original work of art on its own. How shall we compare all Homer's other sequels, from the *Aeneid* to Kazantzakis and Sefaris, to their original, the foundation of all Western fiction?

A great book or a memorable character merely provides the peg for the sequel. From then on, the writer is in charge, and must create her characters from scratch, to please her fantasy, but remembering that there are a lot of readers out there who take a fiercely proprietary interest in fictions that have brightened their lives. Good luck to Susan Hill. She must ignore all barking and advice from the touchline. But I do hope she brings Mrs Danvers back to nasty life.

Now let the people decide

POLITICS TODAY

W as the British Labour party ever so cynical as in this week's rejection of a Maastricht referendum? The case for denying the public a vote was, in Gerald Kaufman's words, that "Maastricht is the Tories' problem and we shouldn't turn it into Labour's problem." This from the party of the 1975 referendum on the great constitutional question of the decade.

Nothing sends a shudder through Westminster so much as the word referendum. The reason is simple. A referendum is a second opinion by an unqualified person or persons unknown. It intrudes the political closed shop. It suggests less than total confidence in the parliamentary process. It implies that the Commons may occasionally be an imperfect mirror of the public mind.

The idea of the *absolute* sovereignty of Parliament has a long history much beloved of MPs, beloved especially of the cabinet into whose safe keeping that sovereignty is mostly entrusted. This paternalism, the horror of plebiscites, the aversion even to "free" votes in the Commons, have yielded two centuries of constitutional stability. So why, ask MPs, have referendums? What need has the nation of populist quackery when a reassuring Harley Street finger is on its pulse?

The answer is that each facet of our constitution, especially an unwritten one, should regularly be hammered on the political anvil to test its strength. John Major and John Smith are now in bizarre coalition not just to push ahead with Maastricht, but to do so with a minimum of real (rather than cosmetic) accountability.

"Only the full-hearted consent of the British people," was the phrase used by Sir Edward Heath and all his successors as the basis for each advance towards European unity. Mr Major may not at present have it. Polls variously suggest a majority against ratification, though not too big to be reversed by vigorous campaigning. But they also show 70 per cent in favour of a referendum.

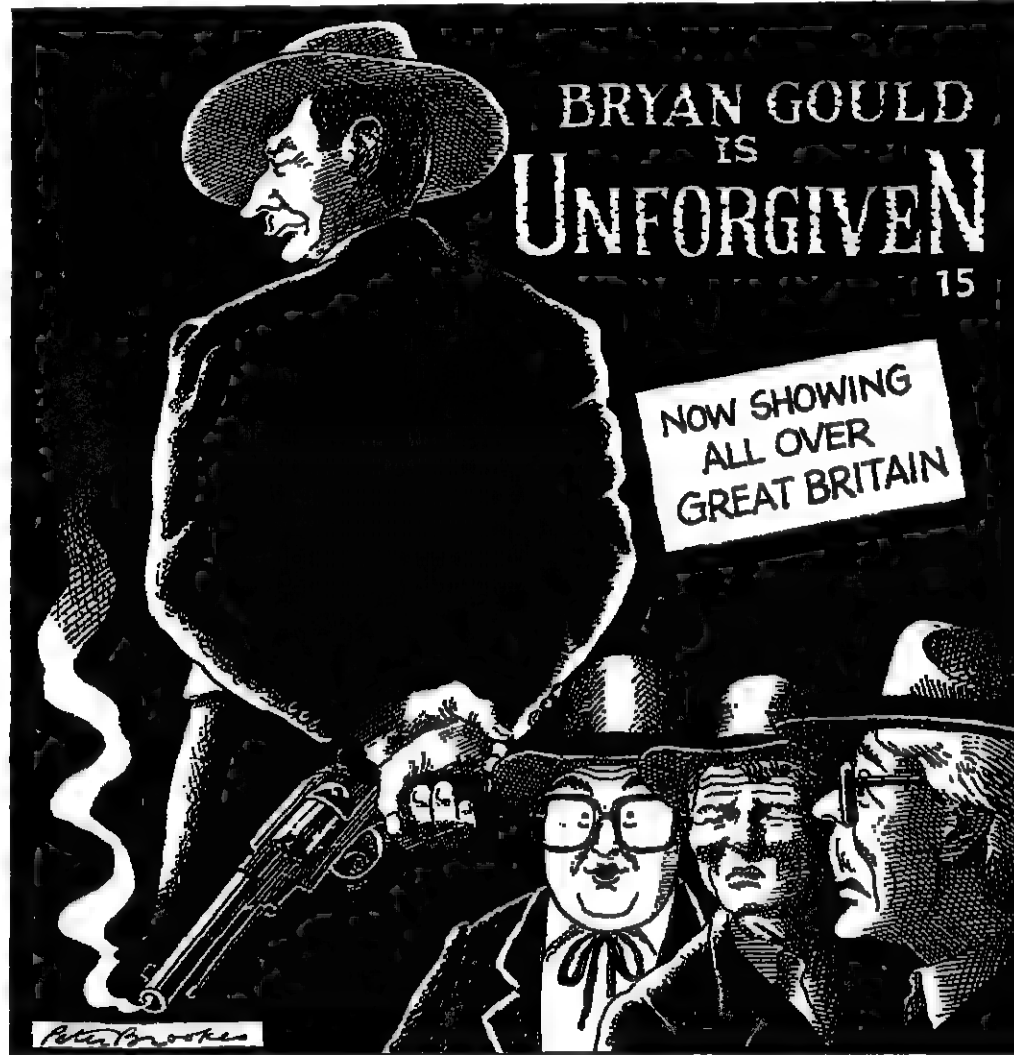
So what does Mr Major mean by full-hearted consent? Maastricht is not a trivial item of public spending, or some minor adjustment to the sheep-meat premium. It is a constitutional blockbuster.

The issue was briskly put on Monday by Tony Benn: "What is it that allows the Danes to say yes or no, the French to say yes or no, the Irish to say yes or no but says we do not think the British people are qualified?"

Many European leaders, especially the Germans, are tired of being lectured by British ministers on their need to "answer" to the House of Commons, as if the latter were an independent estate of the realm. They can read political science and know humbug when they see it. Ministers are "subject" only to intermittent rebellion from the majority party, against which they have a huge arsenal.

When Mr Major sought initial approval for Maastricht, he ordered a devastating anti-backbench barrage. Any who wished to take a line independent of the government had to forswear all prospect of office, all hope of honour and all chance of future perks. To call this parliamentary sovereignty in action — let alone the full-hearted consent of the people — is laughable.

Much is made of the authority of Dickey in such matters, the closest the British constitution is to being "written". But Dickey pointed out that sovereignty lies with "the nation", not with Parliament. Even



Simon Jenkins on why Britain needs a referendum

if that sovereignty is periodically delegated to Parliament, the nation may reasonably require its direct sanction on constitutional change by means of referendum.

Few Tory leaders have demurred. Balfour advocated a referendum on tariff reform in 1910. Baldwin promised his party one on imperial preference in 1930 "at thunderous applause". Churchill suggested a referendum in 1945 on prolonging the parliament. Labour introduced a referendum on Europe in 1975. Authority, precedent and common sense all

favour a referendum on Maastricht, irrespective of its outcome. Before the French voted on September 20, Mr Major appeared to accept that a French No to Maastricht would apply to Britain *de facto*. This was despite his commitment to his European Council partners that they would all go ahead with ratification even after the Danish No. A British prime minister thus acknowledged that the French people could veto a change to the British constitution, but that the British people could not. He would not even permit

mans disagree. They want ratification soon and know that a joint Tory and Labour three-line whip can deliver it. The one thing to get Mr Major off this hook would be a referendum.

Instead, he flounders. He protests that Maastricht was "approved" at last April's general election. But he cannot say now. Dickey spins in his grave. Not since Joseph Stalin boasted 98 per cent electoral support have we heard such nonsense. Or do prime ministers no longer regard elections as choices, merely beatifications?

...and moreover

ALAN COREN

I have been in this business for a long time. That is how I don't think it was a business. I went into it for 15 minutes. I had a rough idea, and 32 subsequent years have served only to endorse that first impression. So when writers talk about being in the business, they are not fending off the risk of pretension, they are not coyly dissembling the conviction that it is an art, a vocation, a passion, they are merely stating the facts.

The 15 minutes began at 6.30 pm on September 17, 1960, at the publishing party for my first book. I had never been to a publishing party before, but, convinced that it would be swarming with poets, novelists, playwrights, and all manner of bellettrists, I therefore saw to it that my corduroys were suitably wrinkled, my suede shoes scuffed, and my tie askew, and that the hair I conveniently then had was flopping unkempt Bohemian hanks. I also selected the 29 bus against my trusty Rudge, because I knew that I should leave the party not only roaring drunk but with knuckles so barked from thumping other writers that I should be unable to grip the handlebars. What we should all have been thumping one another about were such topics as whether poets had become derelict of political duty, whether alienation was not a cul-de-sac into which the theatre had recklessly driven itself, and whether the novella was an unaccountably neglected form, and we should have chosen drunken thumping as the resolu-

tion of our differences because that's what writers did, look at Scott, look at Dylan, look at Ernie, look at Brendan, one minute you have a full bottle of Jack Daniels grasped by the base, next minute an empty one grasped by the neck.

Then I walked into Faber's little soirée. Everybody was wearing a charcoal-grey suit and discussing contractual sub-clauses, television adaptations, agents' percentages, fees on the lecture circuit, second serial rights in New Zealand, and second homes in the Perigord. The only time a voice was raised above a decorous murmur was when some luminary was moved to complain of cavalier treatment at this literary lunch or that when he had been forced to speak second after some major dietician or minor royal, at which observation everyone else, rather than sticking one on him, merely capped his anecdote.

I have, since then, been to perhaps a thousand similar gatherings, and they have all been the same. For all their brilliant eccentricity and perilous temperance, our literary lions might have been overworn salesmen or dental technicians convened to launch their autumn ranges.

Until last Sunday night. Last Sunday night, the Writers' Guild of Great Britain threw their annual awards dinner; they threw it at the Dorchester. They threw it in black tie and shimmering gown, and they threw it for and with those who do their business in great inwards. There were, after a suitably corporatist dinner, ringing keynote speeches from

literary industrialists, and then there was an awards ceremony in which senior literary employees and entrepreneurs received those mantelpiece gee-gaws which generally presage a smart career move.

And after four hours, John Osborne got up, more or less. He was there, as the evening's crescendo, to receive the Guild's lifetime achievement award. He made it to the podium, a fortunately sturdy item, where he began to ramble rudely, so that, very soon, a lot of tuxedos were urging him to get off, and a lot of other tuxedos were growing furious at the irreverence being directed towards a great, albeit illegitimate, man. Eventually, Alan Bleasdale, Alan Plater and Alan Rickman helped him from the dais (I would have joined in had my wife not shrewdly pointed out that four Alan might invite more ridicule than was strictly called for), but not before skirmishes had broken out between the factions incensed by his unbusinesslike behaviour and those incensed by the lack of pity for a stricken hero. When I tell you that female independent producers wept, you will have some measure of the moment.

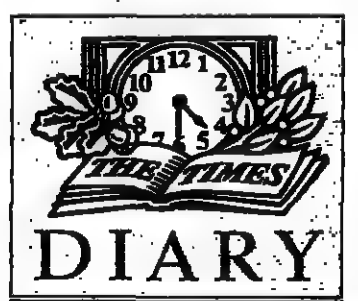
But what nobody appeared to recognise was that this was exactly how a great writer *should* behave. I had waited 30 years to see a literary genius get drunk and trigger a chic assembly into war, and that it was done by Osborne, at the fire in whose belly we have all warmed our hands for so long, was quite the most joyous part of the entire business.

No flunkey business

EVEN before John Smith delivered his first leader's speech yesterday, seasoned conference observers had noticed a dramatic change from the style of his predecessor. While Neil Kinnock cultivated a presidential manner with the attentions of a coterie of advisers, Smith has adopted a quieter, understated approach.

Kinnock's arrival at conference functions was always preceded by an "advance party" of officials, blowing the trumpet for the leader's arrival. Smith has impressed delegates with his unprepossessing manner, turning up to such events without fanfare and accompanied merely by his wife and a discreet police escort. His low-key style is in stark contrast to the enjoyment Kinnock clearly derived from sweeping into receptions surrounded by a gaggle of aides armed with mobile telephones, who would rush around looking stressed.

Even out of office Kinnock seems to run a larger entourage than the new leader. Returning to his hotel on Monday night the former leader was escorted upstairs by at least two former aides, including Sue Nye, his one-time secretary, who now works for Gordon Brown. By contrast Smith prides himself on being able to organise his own life. He arrives back at his hotel with just his wife and without a flunkey in sight. The new leader has also dispensed with Kinnock's style gurus such as Barbara Follett, who ordered the double-breasted suits and colour co-ordination. Smith has insisted on sticking to his sober bank manager look. The argument goes that Smith may not have changed his suit in 30 years but (unlike Kinnock) he hasn't changed his views either.



Out of office, however, Kinnock has also dispensed with the designer image and seems years younger. The suits have been replaced once again by sports jacket and slacks and the former leader has lost about one and a half stones in weight. The years of being chauffeur-driven to official briefings where plates and glasses were refilled as if by magic took their toll. Without his chauffeur, Kinnock is driving himself again and his friends say it has had a dramatic effect on his waistline. "We are both on diets," says Glynnis Kinnock. "And it must be working. We both feel great."

● The news that Sir Norman Fowler is negotiating the parameters of Baroness Thatcher's appearance at the Tory conference in Brighton next week has set tongues wagging at Central Office. If the former prime minister recently earned £500,000 for a single appearance in the Far East, could the party not be persuaded to stump up a million for her not to appear?

Blue ribbon

JOHN MacGregor discovered the advantages of being transport secretary when he flew back from Brussels to open the new Hayes bypass yesterday. MacGregor had flown to Brussels on Monday from

Heathrow after turning up at RAF Northolt to find his original flight cancelled due to bad weather. The drive to Heathrow was horrendous, particularly because the new Hayes bypass remained unopened and MacGregor made his flight with just seconds to spare. Yesterday, on his return from Brussels — timed perfectly to land at Heathrow for the short ride to the opening ceremony — his flight was diverted to Northolt. He was in danger of missing the ceremony until he hit upon an idea. That a road is not officially open might deter the ordinary motorist but why should it delay a transport minister?

MacGregor ordered the barrier to be removed and drove up the deserted carriageway to arrive bang on time to cut the ribbon at the other end — before making the "first" official journey back down the new road.

Uncivil service

BRITAIN'S top civil servants and their leader William Waldegrave will come under the beady eye of business psychologist John Nicholson today at their "away day" at the Civil Service College in Sunningdale. Waldegrave has appointed Nicholson as a special adviser and "customer care" guru. "It's about teaching civil servants to give a service civilly," says Nicholson, whose first career was as a rock musician with a group called The Blue Monks and Their Dirty Habits. Nicholson denies that he has been appointed to give a new lease of life to the flagging Civil Service Charter but admits: "People were suffering from Charter fatigue. This could be as powerful a social trend as Thatcherism."

Hello campers

RED may be dead in the Labour Party but the colour could be about

to make a comeback among one of the party's most influential trades union backers, John Edmonds, leader of the GMB, is proposing to hold the union's annual conference next year not in Blackpool, where he is currently enjoying the delights of the Labour conference, but in a holiday camp — Butlins, Bognor Regis, home of the redcoats and the favourite holiday haunt of Terry Major, the prime minister's elder brother.

Yet the proposal has bitterly di-



vided the brothers and sisters. Some are all in favour of the savings from the cheap deal. Other officers fear the union will never be taken seriously again. Hi de hi, comrades.

● The Ritz has declared an amnesty on up-market kleptomaniacs. The hotel is willing to barter lost briefcase for its "heritage room" to open next spring. Terry Holmes, the hotel's managing director, has drawn up a barter list. A piece of Ritz crockery will earn afternoon tea. A Ritz chamberpot will buy a night for two in the hotel. And a bedroom vanity set is worth a suite worth £1,000.



SMITH'S MISSING AGENDA

John Smith's first leadership speech to the Labour party conference yesterday could have been that of an election victor. There was no admission of defeat. He did not see any need to update the "enduring values" of the Labour party. He did not believe that the British people lacked a sense of compassion, decency or honour. But he left one gaping question unanswered. If all that is true, why did Labour lose the last election?

Mr Smith criticised the government with great verve and wit. A talent for attacking the other side, however, is not enough. Mr Smith insisted it was not his wish to lead a party of opposition for long. But he said nothing about whether or how he intended to reform his party and its policies to make it electable as a party of government.

Little in Mr Smith's speech was new or different from the sentiments expressed by his predecessor, Neil Kinnock. He reiterated his support for the role of trade unions and their links with the Labour party. He praised the minimum wage. He sang the virtues of active government. It was as if he genuinely believed that "one more heaven" would win Labour the next election without any need for change.

For Labour this is dangerously complacent, though it may be understandable from Mr Smith's Scottish perspective. In Scotland Labour is securely in possession of the political high ground. If he were to talk to voters in the South of England, however, he would hear a different message. *Southern Discomfort*, the research study on wavering voters in the South conducted by the MP, Giles Radice, found devastating indictments of Labour as old-fashioned, dominated by unions and, most damagingly, as a party that wants to hold people back.

Labour derided John Major during the last election campaign for visiting an out-of-town DIY store. Nothing could more strongly illustrate the gulf in understanding between Labour and the skilled manual workers who are no longer its supporters. Home ownership and DIY are the new religions of these upwardly mobile floating

voters; and unlike Labour, the Tory party does not patronise them for it.

People who have saved up to buy their own homes and "get on in life" are fiercely individualistic. Labour must prove that it respects their values. They would welcome a move to one-member one-vote in the party's debates. The block vote is a standing reminder of the vested interests to which the party is still tied and the collectivist ideology to which it is still in thrall.

Labour must talk about opportunity too. It emerged most strikingly from *Southern Discomfort* that people thought Labour wanted to keep working-class people working class. The party cannot afford to sneer at people who want to better themselves. For instance the Conservatives offered local authority tenants the right to buy their council house. People who exercised this right believed they had moved up in the world. They felt that Labour disappointed, and would take the advantage away if it could.

Labour has to persuade such people that it is at home with the sort of market economy that has brought prosperity to most of them over the past decade. A party that is still officially committed to "procure for the workers" the common ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange will be hard put to preach the virtues of consumer capitalism with any credibility. True, hardly any Labour members still believe in Clause IV, but that is all the more reason to get rid of it. Abolition of Clause IV would provoke nothing like the battle that Hugh Gaiskill faced in 1959-60. It would be a symbol that Labour had finally shaken off its antipathy to the private sector.

Mr Smith should not allow himself to be distracted from these long-term tasks by resting upon his short-term political advantage. Even if Labour were to lead the Tories in the polls continuously until the next general election, it could easily lose again. The dramatic night of April 9 surely proved to Labour that a lead in the polls is no substitute for a cross in the box in the privacy of the polling booth.

TAYLOR TO THE RESCUE

The new Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor, has taken over just in time to save the government's penological bacon. Its Criminal Justice Act, which comes into force tomorrow, is a riddle. Nobody knows whether the act is meant to be tough or tender: it has been criticised and praised for both tendencies. The heart of the confusion is over sentencing policy. And it is here that Lord Taylor's hands-on approach, together with his unexpected but welcome attention to public relations, could make sense of a law that could otherwise prove unworkable and deeply embarrassing to the government.

As the senior judge, he is about to issue a practice direction to his judicial colleagues warning them of a trap they could fall into as soon as the act is in force. In a laudable effort to make jail sentences imposed by courts correspond a little more closely to the terms actually served, the act states that eligibility for release on parole for prisoners sentenced after tomorrow will start half way through the sentence. At present they are eligible after serving only a third of it.

Hitherto, if a judge thought a prisoner deserved at least one year behind bars, he had to sentence him to three years. Under the act, to achieve the same time in prison he will only have to sentence him to two. But an uninitiated public, noticing only a reduction in the apparent "going rate" and not the explanation of it, might think the judge had gone soft. Judges do not like being thought too lenient. The temptation therefore will be to impose the same formal sentence as before, which in practice would mean longer in prison in each case and a further burden on the already overcrowded prison system. Lord Taylor's practice direction is intended to urge them to resist that temptation.

In due course, cases under the act will start to reach the criminal division of the Court of Appeal, which Lord Taylor heads. He is in

effect warning judges that if they ignore the changes in the law on parole and apply the same sentence tariff as before, the Court of Appeal will overrule them. Judges like that prospect even less than they like the public thinking them too lenient.

There is more to the act than that, however, and further guidance on sentencing from Lord Taylor, when cases reach the Court of Appeal or preferably sooner, is bound to be necessary if a coherent penal policy is to be sustained. The most controversial intention of the act is the greater use of non-custodial sentences such as community service orders. The great uncertainty is whether public opinion will tolerate what may seem to be softer sentencing, or whether alternatives to prison — "painting old people's homes" is the standard image of community service — will be regarded as hardly punishment at all.

Lord Taylor and his fellow judges would be wise not merely to apply the letter of the act, but also to take note of shifting public attitudes to crime and punishment. If non-custodial sentences do not gain public confidence, over-reliance on them could bring the entire criminal justice system into disrepute. Police would feel demoralised, victims unavenged, criminals undiscouraged, and the public scandalised. Every society must make up its own mind what punishment fits which crime. There is no scale of penalties which will be valid for all time. But sentencing is not just a private matter for judges and magistrates. There must be open debate. For that to be well informed, judges must emerge from the secrecy of their chambers and the cosiness of their inns, and state what is on their minds. That is exactly what Lord Taylor did at his first press conference yesterday. It was like throwing open the windows in a closed and stuffy room.

BEASTLY TO THE HUN

Politics means never having to say you're sorry — especially to foreigners. Norman Lamont may now "regret" the impression given by the media that he was offensive to the Germans over their role in the pound's recent difficulties. Using the classic escape route from an awkward corner, he was only "sorry if their feelings were hurt". With the Tory tabloids and backbenchers awash with *Boy's Own Paper* stereotypes of the heel-clicking Iron Crossed Hun, whatever the Chancellor said was grist to their mill. Prudence would have had a tighter lip.

The Germans may understand that his remarks were harmless British banter for domestic consumption. Context is all. Sir Teddy Taylor, talking yesterday about Germans being too big for their jackboots, was not entering a tact competition but coining a witty phrase for the press. The comic Nazis in television's *Allo Allo*, and Basil Fawley's Hitler salute, are an exercise of the British sense of humour — and its very next target will be the British themselves. Nothing is sacred, not even HMQ.

Life with good allies, like any good marriage, can be dull. Quarrels add the necessary spice. There is a shortage of real enemies now there is no Cold War. Friends have to serve instead as best they can. The French are less convincing objects of British ridicule now de Gaulle is gone, the plumbing has improved, garlic and frogs' legs are to be found on British menus too and only poor Jacques Delors is left to play demon for the cartoonists.

At the risk of stereotyping, the British love their foreign stereotypes. Americans are the

glib globe-trotting innocents in blue rinses and loud check. The Japanese, all with identical cameras and funny English, no longer conjure up the *Bridge over the River Kwai*, perhaps, but are still conjured up on screen by the late Penny Hill. Not all jokes at the expense of Pakistanis are told with ill intent. And then there's the Irish.

Old Nazis and new may keep British cartoonists in business. But the "jowls on the beach" joke is more a compliment to the Germans than an insult. A growing number of Britons now associate the Germans with qualities like courtesy, efficiency, dynamism. There is a nation that works, a nation with a conscience, even a nation worth envying. Fighting them on the monetary beaches may rouse some temporary Churchillian spirits. But even the mighty mark has its admirers here.

What Britain needs — and necessarily therefore the rest of Europe — is a form of variable geometry in demonology. (Perhaps the rules could be established by treaty.) Too many nations have had it too good for too long. When was the last time public opinion turned on the Dutch? Or the Danes? Or even the noble Portuguese? Against the mark, French financiers count as friends; against the CAP, French farmers are the foes.

Have not the Dutch farmers ruined the milk market by over-production, and are not their football hooligans as bad as the British? The solid Danes may share a shell-hole with Britain on the Maastricht battlefield, but that is just for today. What has British foreign policy ever been but the endless manipulation of international alliances?

But she insists on not on the agenda, adding Dairmid Glencairn-Campbell, 48, Greg Morgan, 47, and Mike Oxley, 47. Knight

CAROL LEONARD

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9KN Telephone 071-782 5000

Maastricht, sovereignty and parliamentary democracy

From Professor Stephen Haseler

Sir, Lord Pearson of Rannoch (letter, September 24) in arguing for a referendum on the Maastricht treaty asserts that "our parliamentary democracy has already betrayed the sovereignty of the Queen in Parliament to Brussels".

This strange, archaic way of formulating the political case against European integration — involving ruminant constitutional notions of threats to "sovereignty" and "the Queen in Parliament" — is still all too prevalent in the British debate about Europe. The real issue surrounding the proposed European union is not that it will, if thoughtfully, consign the vestiges of our domestic *ancien régime* (including the residual possums of Crown and Lords) to history, but, rather, how it can best secure democracy and accountability for the peoples of Europe.

Of course, I understand the difficulty faced by many British politicians in raising the democracy issue. Proclamations issued forth from the unelected House of Lords about the dangers posed to democracy by European integration are farcical. As are calls for a referendum on Maastricht by members of the House of Commons (where a "majority" is derived from only 42 per cent of the vote). As are lectures on the superiority of British democracy ("Mother of Parliaments" et al) from members of a polity in which basic rights are not entrenched and civilised Western concepts like the separation of powers and the separation of church and state are resented.

Until we put our own democratic house in order attacks upon the European union, and calls for the retention of "sovereignty", will seem little more than special pleading — on behalf of domestic privileged interests threatened with extinction.

Sincerely yours,
STEPHEN HASELER,
2 Thackeray House, Ansell Street,
Kensington, W8.
September 25.

From Sir Fred Catherwood, MEP, and Mr Tom Spencer, MEP

Sir, The Danish and French referendums are the end of the line for a Europe run by elites making decisions behind closed doors. It is clear that such elites can no longer deliver popular consent.

It must also be the end of the line for a process which keeps national parliaments out of decision-making and asks them to vote for package deals which they cannot alter.

Members from the different national parliaments need to meet each other to discuss the major issues and to learn, as we do in Strasbourg, what kind of policies will get broad support and which will not.

There is now an overwhelming case for a second chamber of the European

Parliament elected from and by national parliaments, meeting perhaps a week a month for a first-reading debate on proposed legislation. The subsequent votes on this legislation in their national parliaments would no longer be a rubber-stamp.

Yours etc.,
FRED CATHERWOOD, MEP for Cambridge and North Bedfordshire (European People's Party (Conservative)),
TOM SPENCER, MEP for Surrey West (European People's Party (Conservative)),
European Parliament, Brussels.

From Sir Philip Goodhart

Sir, Many people will agree with the powerful arguments put forward in your leading article, "Let the people speak" (September 22), but only Parliament can decide whether or not a referendum on the ratification of the Maastricht treaty should be held.

Both the prime minister and the Leader of the Opposition in the Commons debate have reaffirmed their belief that Parliament must decide.

Present tensions within both of the principal parties in the House of Commons could be reduced if, after the next European summit meeting in October, the Leader of the House were to introduce a motion authorising an eventual referendum on ratification of the treaty, and the prime minister were to announce that there would be a completely free vote on this issue for Conservative ministers and backbenchers. The Leader of the Labour party could then be encouraged by the prime minister to allow a similar vote for all his parliamentary supporters.

It would, in fact, be in the long-term interests of both the Conservative and Labour party whips to have a completely free vote in order to reduce the risk of future party splits.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP GOODHART,
25 Abbotsway Road,
Kensington, W14.

From Professor Emeritus I. C. Whitfield

Sir, The 1975 referendum did not establish "that the question of Britain's EC membership was no longer at issue" (leading article, September 22), though the error is now a common one. The 1975 referendum was about continuing membership of the European Economic Community, a proposal we were led to believe was something much more limited.

Had everyone then realised the slippery slope on which it has since turned out that we were embarking, the outcome might well have been different.

Yours faithfully,
I. C. WHITFIELD,
Coley Pitt Lane, Coley Pitt Lane,
Wychbold, nr Droitwich,
Worcestershire.

The role of 'living wills' in dilemma over euthanasia

From Mr Roger M. Goss

Sir, Though an active supporter of voluntary euthanasia I still, rather surprisingly, agree with almost everything written by Bernard Levin in his excellent piece ("No justice in a merciful release", September 24) on the case of Dr Nigel Cox, with one caveat.

Until "living wills", also known as advance directives, stating the circumstances under which a patient does not wish treatment to continue are legalised, as is the case in many other parts of the world, there will be countless more cases like that of Mrs Boyes, whose attempted murder Dr Cox was charged with.

Presumably Mr Levin is prepared to risk an ending similar to hers in the interests of precluding some other greater evil. Most of us are not. Nor do we believe a compassionate and merciful God would want us to.

Yours sincerely,
ROGER M. GOSS
(Member, Executive Committee,
The Voluntary Euthanasia Society),
4 Old Manor Yard, SW5,
September 24.

From Mr Alan Carlile, QC, MP for Montgomery (Liberal Democrat)

Sir, I am an adviser to the Overseas Doctors Association as well as a lay member of the General Medical Council. I would caution the advocates of euthanasia for their dangerous over-confidence in the omnipotence of modern medical technology.

These advocates say that only when a patient is beyond reasonable care, or in a continuing coma, or tortured by an incurable disease should euthanasia be permitted. But which doctor is so certain of himself, or his modern science, as to predict when a patient is beyond recovery or not?

If euthanasia were legal, would doctors, God forbid, see euthanasia as a best and most efficient option to prolonged and uncertain medical care? Would it become an option to be used on the most difficult cases?

I deny that any doctor is in the enviable position to state with certainty the future recovery of their patients. It is true that recoveries in such circumstances, miracles they sometimes seem, are too few; but they do occur.

If patients give enduring power of attorney in a living will to their lawyer or friend, it becomes his or her responsibility to make sure that euthanasia is

carried out in the event of a horrible debilitating accident. But what if the family of that victim wish to carry on treatment in the hope of that elusive miracle? We would then see a harmful and controversial suit over who speaks for the victim.

Even worse, what if the doctor in such a case, as we see with some cases of abortion, is morally opposed to euthanasia and refuses to carry out the fatal dosing? Would there be litigation between the victim's lawyer and his doctor? In such a confused situation, who would finally exercise the terrible decision of life or death?

If euthanasia were legal we would enter into such a frightening area of legislation and litigation as would thwart the best of intellectual argument. My father was a provincial doctor, from whom I learned the medical maxim "Do no harm." I believe that, despite the labyrinthine of legal and moral questions, that simple truism should prove decisive.

Yours faithfully,
ALEX CARLILE,
House of Commons.

From Mr Robert Rhodes, QC

Sir, The trial of Dr Cox has revealed the inadequacy of the law of murder as it now stands. Unlike any other offence in the criminal calendar, a judge has no discretion in sentencing a person convicted of murder: the sentence of a *sane adult* is imprisonment for life.

Dr Cox was charged with, and convicted of, attempted murder because his patient's body had been cremated before police made their enquiries, and the prosecution was therefore unable to prove that the unfortunate lady had died as a direct result of his injection. Since the penalty for attempted murder is entirely within the sentencing judge's discretion, the trial judge was able to pass a non-custodial sentence.

Had the patient not been cremated, however, and had the prosecution been able to prove that the injection caused death, Dr Cox would have been convicted of murder. In those circumstances, the judge would have had no alternative but to sentence him to life imprisonment. Such a sentence would have been an affront to anyone of the slightest humanity.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Heritage query on Pitchford Hall

From Somerset Herald

Sir, The contents of Pitchford Hall, Shropshire, the accumulation of more than 500 years, will have been dispersed today. Since 1473, 19 years before Columbus discovered America, the hall has passed by inheritance through the families of Orley, Jenkinson, Cotes, Grant and Colthurst. Descend through the female line is interesting genealogically and enriched the contents for the genealogist both in pedigree rolls displayed in the house and varied heraldic decoration.

Those interested in heraldry will presumably continue to go to Pitchford to see the wonderful 15th-century wooden figure of Sir John de Pitchford in the church, but the fine run of about 50 English portraits in the house referred to by Mr Christopher Foley (letter, September 10) will have gone with the other contents.

English Heritage produced a plan to save Pitchford Hall and its contents which was overruled by the then heritage secretary. Although it is too late to save Pitchford it is appropriate that a government minister whose tenure of office may be short can overrule a scheme put forward by English Heritage.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS WOODCOCK,
Somerset Herald,
The College of Arms,
Queen Victoria Street, EC4,
September 29.

Firing lessons

From Mr Noel Ayliffe-Jones

Sir, The essence of retaliatory fire is speed and accuracy. To insist (report, early editions, September 23) that retaliation by British troops under attack in Bosnia-Herzegovina should be with the 81mm mortar merely ensures that the enemy are given plenty of time to move from the spot from which they fired.

Mortars should be used only in their proper role of indirect fire weapons. Against snipers and anti-tank rockets there is nothing quicker or more discouraging than three quick rounds of 30mm high explosive delivered within seconds. The 30mm cannon on armoured personnel carriers and reconnaissance vehicles is ideally suited to this purpose, especially in the close country through which the escorted convoys will pass.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
NOEL AYLIFFE-JONES,
1 West Dean, Salisbury, Wiltshire.
September 23.

Controlling squirrels

From Mrs R. Neill

Sir, Mr John Bryant (letter, September 25) might not feel so charitably disposed towards grey squirrels if he had suffered as my friend living outside Conwy, Gwynedd, has.

First, squirrels got into the engine compartment of a parked car and stripped all the electrical system of anything they could chew away. Next, she noticed a smell of gas outside the house and discovered that they had chewed away most of the rubber connection between propane cylinders and the pipes conducting the fuel into the house; this could have caused an explosion if anyone passing had been smoking. The gas engineers told her this is quite common and the only remedy is to put a steel cage round the connection.

There have been only grey squirrels in the area for many years.

Yours faithfully,
R. NEILL,
20 Raven Lane, Ludlow, Shropshire.
September 25.

Hospital charges

From Mrs S. Glaser

Sir, During the last two weeks there has been criticism of the earnings of a small group of medical consultants (report, September 9; letters, September 15, 18). It would have been fairer to take account of inflation and the rise in other hospital charges.

In 1947 a member of my family was in a local nursing home for major surgery. The cost was £1.05 (one guinea) per day. There were no extra charges for X-rays, drugs, dressings, theatre, etc. This year an admission for one night for minor surgery cost £368.

I remain, yours faithfully,
S. GLASER,
54 Church Street,
Bathford, Bath, Avon.
September 24.

Backyard bouncers

From Mr G. J. C. Smelt

Sir, As well as Mr Russell Hawkes's Nimby-Whistlers (letter, September 25) there are those who come to Rimby-Astop (retire into my backyard and sell the old pile). I will be unable to indulge as the previous owner of my house lives at the bottom of the previous garden.

Yours faithfully,
G. J. C. SMELT,
Hopewell House,
Leeds Road, Lightcliffe,
Halifax, West Yorkshire.
September 25.

Business letters, page 21

US dollar cheques welcome — (£1 = US\$1.70) NOW NO SURCHARGE
Please send cheques or postal orders payable to Alcom Ltd, Times Crossword Account to Alcom
14, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW
Enquiries, telephone 081 852 4575 (open weekends).
Please allow 14 days for delivery



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

September 29: The Princess Royal, Master, the Worshipful Company of Lincolners, this morning attended a Trade Liaison and Finance Committee Meeting, Aldermen's Court Room, Guildhall, London EC2.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit, then attended an Annual Conference at Glaziers' Hall, London SE1.

The Princess Royal this evening attended a Presentation given by the Royal Naval Presentation Team for the White Ensign Association at St James's Palace.

Her Royal Highness, President, Registered Engineers for Disaster Relief, afterwards attended the Working Dinner for Vice Presidents at the Institution of Civil Engineers, 1-7 Great George Street, London SW1.

Mrs Andrew Feilden was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

September 29: The Prince of Wales this evening returned from a visit to Rome and Bologna.

Mr Peter Westmacott was in attendance.

The Princess of Wales, Patron, the Guinness Trust, this morning visited the Trust's Housing Estate at Stamford Hill, Hackney, London N16.

Captain Edward Musso, RM, was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness afterwards attended a Lunch given by His Excellency the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt (Mr Mohamed Shaker) at 35 South Audley Street, London W1.

The Viscountess Campden and Mr Patrick Jephson were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

September 29: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was present this evening at a Reception given by the Air League at the Royal Air Force Club, Piccadilly.

Mrs Jane Stevens was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

September 29: The Duke of Gloucester today visited Hampshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire (Lieutenant-Colonel Sir James Scott, Bt).

His Royal Highness this morning opened the Stanton Way Hospital, St Francis Church, Riddlesdown, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.

The Duke of Gloucester afterwards visited the Havant Housing Association at Maple House, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.

His Royal Highness later opened the New Training Unit of Southampton City Training, 18 Melbourn Street, Southampton.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE

September 29: The Duchess of Kent this morning visited the Royal School for Girls and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Derbyshire (Colonel Peter Hilton).

Her Royal Highness later visited Spa Court, Disabled Housing Service, Derby.

The Duchess of Kent this afternoon opened the Eagle Centre Market and visited the Royal School for the Deaf, Derby.

Mrs Colin Marsh was in attendance.

University and Mrs Franklin, Mrs

Beryl Chilly also representing the principal and fellows, St Hugh's College, Oxford, and Mrs Gillian O'Connor (editor, *Investors Chronicle*), Mr John Freeman (Keweenaw), Mr Brian Richardson (Lloyds of London Press), Mr T M Farnham (Macmillan Press), Mr Elizabeth Spurrell (St Paul's, Westminster).

Mr Richard Lambert, Mr David Chapp, Mr and Mrs Kenneth Morgan, Mr John Morgan, Mrs Margaret Cummings, Mrs Muriel Sturt, Mr and Mrs Roger Blake, Mr and Mrs H C M. Mrs Lorna Kingston and Mr Keith Jeffrey.

Memorial service

Miss Margaret Reid
A memorial service for Miss Margaret Reid (Mrs Howard White) was held yesterday at St Bride's, Fleet Street. Canon John Oakes officiated. Mr Malcolm Reid, brother, read the lesson, Miss Anna Sharkey read from Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey* and Mr Jonathan Cecil read Miss Sheehy's *Pugh's Sonnet*.

Mr Ian Richardson was the address. Among other present were: Mr Howard Whiten (husband), Sir Martin and Lady Reid (father and mother-in-law), Dr. Donald Egan (brother), Mr and Mrs Patrick Whiten (brother and sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs Francis Reid (brother and sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs Timothy Reid (brother and sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs David Owen, Mr and Mrs Christopher Clark, Miss Julie Sturges, Miss Elizabeth, a sister, Mr and Mrs Kathleen Allison, Dr Philip Reid, Miss Alice Reid, Mr Daniel Morgan, Mr Michael Jeffery, Miss Lily Reid, Miss Zoe Oat.

Lord O'Brien of Leinster, Sir Leo Laidlaw, Sir Gordon Burrell, Sir Leo Oatley, Mr and Mrs Gordon Burrell (representing the British Bankers' Association), Mr Geoffrey R Kelly (Barclays de Zeeuw), Mr and Mrs R. Brown (Yorkshire Bank), Professor Paul Franklin (vice-chancellor, City).

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Frederick Sleigh Roberts, 1st Earl Roberts, field marshal, Cawnpore, 1832; Herman Sudermann, writer, Mauthausen, Germany, 1857.

DEATHS: Fulk Greville, 1st Baron Brooke, poet and statesman, London, 1628; George Whitefield, evangelist, Newbury Port, Massachusetts, 1770; James Brindley, canal builder, Turnbury, Staffordshire, 1772; Georges Boulanger, soldier and politician, committed suicide, Brussels, 1891; Rudolf Diesel, engineer, pioneer of the internal combustion engine, at sea, 1913.



This portrait of Tipu Tib, a late nineteenth century slave trader in East Africa, is one of many remarkable pictures held by the library

£3m appeal to save library

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S archival memory of its Empire and the Commonwealth will be saved if an appeal launched last night succeeds in raising £3 million.

The Royal Commonwealth Society Library, founded in 1868, is the most complete history of colonial British life, but it is threatened with being broken up and sold because of the society's lack of funds.

The Queen and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother have contributed to the fund,

and the Prince of Wales is patron of the independent charitable trust set up to acquire and save the library. The trust has raised £1.5 million and has until March 31 to raise the rest.

The library comprises 500,000 books, manuscripts, pamphlets and catalogues and covers the full range of British imperial and Commonwealth history, politics and biography. Among the manuscripts are letters from Stamford Raffles, David Livingstone and

Cecil Rhodes, a chronicle of the British mandate in Palestine and 70,000 photographs.

Sir Patrick Sheehy, chairman of the trust, said: "The library is unique and its break-up would be a sad reflection on the value we place on our heritage. Future generations could justifiably regard its forced dispersal as a short sighted act of cultural vandalism."

If the appeal is successful the library will move to Cambridge University.

Birthdays today

Sir Stanley Bailey, former chief constable, Northumbria, 66; Rev Dr Gordon Barrett, president, Methodist Conference, and former principal, National Children's Home, 72; Lord Belstead, 60; Sir Derek Birkin, chairman, RTZ Corporation, 63; Mr Kevin Brewer, former governor, Maidstone Prison, 43; General Sir Edward Burgess, 65; Professor Geoffrey Chisholm, surgeon, 61; Viscount Cranborne, 46; Professor Sir Eric Denton, marine biologist, 69; Sir Peter Fawcett, colonial officer, 77; Mr Staffan Gadd, banker, 58; Mr A.E.S. Green, painter, 53; Mr A.R. Hacker, chemist and conductor, 54; the Right Rev Patrick Harris, Bishop of Southwell, 58; Miss Deborah Kerr, actress, 71; Professor F. Leach, former principal, University College of Swansea, 85; Mr Johnny Mahis, singer, 54; Sir Nevill Mott, physicist, 87; Mr Ian Ogilvy, actor, 49; Mr Stewart Steven, editor, *London Evening Standard*, 54; Mr J.L.M. Stewart (Michael Jurek), author, 86; Mr Donald Swann, composer, pianist and singer, 69; Sir Peter Yarranston, chairman, Sports Council, 68.

Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales will visit the Church of Scotland's Residential Home at Archvassard, Reay, Thurso, Caithness, at 10.20.

The Princess of Wales will open the new phase IV block and commission the magnetic resonance imaging unit at Tishke Hospital, Truro, at 11.45; at 1.30, at Devon of Freshfield Service, will visit the offices at 10 Strangways Terrace, Truro, at 1.45; and will open Phi Magnetronics at Bickland Industrial Park, Falmouth, at 2.50.

The Duke of York will visit the Royal Hospital School, Ipswich, 2.00.

The Princess Royal will open the new flats for the YMCA and the Sanctuary Housing Association, Jennyfields, Harrogate, at 10.25; as Patron of SENSE, the National Deaf-Blind and Rubella Association, will visit Henshaw's College, Harrogate, at 11.00; as President of the Save the Children Fund, will visit the fund's office, at 23 Goodramsgate, York, at 11.45; and, as Patron of the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureau, will attend the annual meeting and conference at York University at 12.50.

The Duke of Kent will visit Scott Bader, Wellington, at 11.35; will visit Ruston Comprehensive School, Northamptonshire, at 2.15; as Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, will visit PED (Staden), Earl's Barton, at 3.25; and, as President of the Scout Association, and Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, will attend a grand dinner at Wickenham Park, Kenning, at 7.15 in aid of the Northamptonshire Scout Appeal.

Inner Temple

Sir John May has been elected Treasurer for 1993. Sir Stephen Brown has been elected Reader.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.A.L. de Serpa Fimicel and Miss F.M. Keith
The engagement is announced between Carlos, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Manuel de Serpa Fimicel, of Tadley, Hampshire, and Fiona, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Keith, of Twickenham, West Sussex.

Mr R.G. Franklin and Miss S.J. Moorhead
The engagement is announced between Richard, only son of Mr Mervyn Franklin, of Rosel, Jersey, and the late Mrs Gillian Franklin, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ray Moorhead, of Milverton, Somerset.

Mr P.J. Freeborn and Miss C.M. Goldie
The engagement is announced between Philip, only son of Mr and Mrs J.D. Freeborn, of Hampstead Garden Suburb, London, and Christina, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs T. Goldie, of Livingston, Scotland.

Mr A.K. Hardie and Miss A.J. Waddell
The engagement is announced between Adam, younger son of Mr and Mrs Donald Hardie, of Gartocham, Dumfriesshire, and Alexandra Isabel Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Waddell, of Edinburgh.

Mr S.N. Mair and Miss D.J. Osborne
The marriage will take place on October 31, between Simon, eldest son of Mr John Mair, of Harrow, and Miss Irene Mair, of Chelsea, and Diana, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Osborne, of Abernethy, Wales.

Mr S. McClean and Miss J. Skelton
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of the late Captain C.F. McClean, of Mrs Heulwen McClean, of Valley, Anglesey, and Janie, daughter of the late J.H. Skelton, of Mrs Patricia Skelton, of Dunster, Somerset.

Mr C.Y. Nutt and Mrs B.E. Gaisviken
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of the late Mr Horace Nutt and of Mrs Clare Nutt, of Bancroft Park, Little Abington, Cambridgeshire, and Barbara, eldest daughter of Mr Horace (Tim) Gornall, of Chipping, Lancashire.

Mr H.M. Shepherd-Cross and Miss D. Byrom-Clausen
The engagement is announced between Harry, eldest son of Mr and Mrs James Shepherd-Cross, of Greens Norton, Northamptonshire, and Doris, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Claus Byrom-Clausen, of Wilmshurst, London.

Mr C.L. Thomas and Miss R.K. Wood
The engagement is announced between Charles, elder son of Dr and Mrs David Thomas, of Fulmer, Buckinghamshire, and Romayne, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Wood, of Richmond, Surrey.

Mr A.C.H. Vanderpump and Miss A.L. Steele
The engagement is announced between Antony, only son of Mr Richard Vanderpump, of Dornham Park, West Sussex, and Mrs Margaret Smithers, of Pensthorpe, Kent, and Imogen, younger daughter of Mrs Ann Banks, of Wokingham, Surrey, and the late Mr R.W. Steele.

Mr G.E.R. Wood and Miss C.T. Johnson
The engagement is announced between Edmund, son of Mr and Mrs John Wood, of Great Gaddesden, Hertfordshire, and Caroline, younger daughter of Canon and Mrs Anthony Johnson, of Semley, Wiltshire.

Mr D. Owen and Miss C. Cox
The marriage took place on Saturday, September 5, at the Church of St Thomas the Martyr, Winchester, of Mr David Owen, younger son of Dr and Mrs John Owen, to Miss Emma Cox, daughter of Mr Andrew Cox and Mrs Carol Cox.

Memorial concert

Mr Richard Treshar Jeffrey
A memorial concert to celebrate the life of Mr Richard Treshar Jeffrey was held last night at the Leighton House Museum, Holland Park.

Mr Edmund Harkin and Mr Christopher Clark played Vivaldi's *Concerto for Two Trumpets in C Major*, Miss Elizabeth Harrison, soprano, sang from *Glis Glis* by Handel, from *Adriano Lecocq* by Francesco Cilea and from *The Beggar's Opera*.

Mr Hilton Marton, tenor, sang from Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, Miss Tamara Dalley, mezzo-soprano, sang from Saint-Saëns's *Sauve-toi dans la nuit* and Mr Gary Chabon.

Miss Judith French and Mr Thomas de Malla-Burgess gave readings.

Church news

The Rev Graham Richard James, Domestic Chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury, will be appointed to the Suffragan See of St Germans, in succession to the Right Rev John Richard Allan Llewellyn upon his translation to the Suffragan Bishopric of Dover.

The Right Rev Michael Whitney, Assistant Bishop, diocese of Birmingham, is to be appointed to a vacant residential canonry in Birmingham Cathedral.

Resignations
The Rev Mary Victoria, Worcester Mission Officer, diocese of Worcester, to resign to join her husband who has been appointed an Army Chaplain.

The Rev Gary Wilson, Curate, Cathedral of St Andrew and St Christ Church (Bath and Wells); to resign as from 30 September.

Telephone 071 481 4000

But whoever is obedient to God's word, in him the love of God is truly made perfect. This is new to me, but I am sure that we are in him.

1 John 2:5

BIRTHS
ALEXANDER - On September 24th, to John and Edie, a son, Gordon Theodore.

ALL-BAKER - On September 26th at the Humana Hospital, Westchester, to Sheryl and Alan, a daughter, Anna Elizabeth.

BAND - On September 21st, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Elizabeth (née Sheehy) and Andrew, a daughter, Felicity Alice Elizabeth Montgomery, a sister for Mark.

BARON - On September 30th, 1992, at St Mary's, Paddington, to Rosemary and Francis, a daughter, Elia Minnie, a sister for James.

BURNETT - On September 17th, to Nicola (née Cross) and Alan, a son, Gaten Alexander Perry.

COOK - On September 25th, to Catherine (née Toombs) and Richard, a daughter, Amelia Alice Tyrer, a sister for Camilla.

COOK - On September 25th, at St John's Hospital, to Christine (née Chavell) and Alan, a son, Jonathan William (a brother for John).

DE LOTTENBERG - On September 24th, 1992, to only (née Leventis) and Gloria, a daughter, Florence Maria, a sister for Thomas.

FAULKNER - On September 28th, 1992, to Deborah and Mark, a son.

FREEMAN - On September 24th, 1992, at the Portland Hospital, to Margaret-Anne (née Charles) and Gordon, a daughter, Katrina Mary.

GREENWELL - On September 24th, to Claire (née Oxbury) and Robert, a son, Thomas, a brother for Louise and Olivia.

HARBOY - On September 27th, to Stephanie and Philip, a daughter, Elizabeth.

KELLY - On September 24th, 1992, to Elizabeth (née Eades) and Benedict, a son, Humphrey Martin Noel, a brother for Thomas.

LANGDON - On September 25th, 1992, to Vicky (née Henderson) and Ben, a son, Max David, a grandson for Lillian, George, David and April, and a nephew for Beth, Martin, Miles, Kay, Anne, Jill and Jean-Luc.

LAVERS - On September 16th, to Felicity (née Langer) and John, a son, Oliver, a brother for James and Chloe.

MCCULLAGH - On September 24th, to Nicky (née Bennett) and Bruce, a son, Andrew Robert.

MORAN - On July 20th, 1992, to Gloria (née Malone) and Paul, a son, Partha Agastya Leo.

MORTLAKE - On September 24th, at the Portland Hospital, to Sarah (née Ackerman) and Nicholas, a daughter, Nikita Moira, a sister for Natasha.

DEATHS

ALTHAM - On Friday September 26th, Oona, hospital following an operation, beloved wife of Group Captain Altham, Christopher, and much loved mother of Jane, Margaret and Elizabeth.

DAVEY - On September 23rd, Malcolm Richard Herbert Davey, aged 77 years, died peacefully at home, surrounded by his family. Burial at Little Shelford, Cambridgeshire, on Monday October 5th at 11.30 am. Flowers by family only. Donations to Little Shelford Church, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire CB2 8JH.

ANDERSON - On September 28th, peacefully at home, Sir Kenneth Anderson KBE, CB, by his own wish, no funeral or other services.

BARCLAY - On September 27th, peacefully at his home, William, Christopher, Stephen, aged 30, beloved husband of Anne, and the late Patrick, much loved brother of Nick and David, and a brother of Michael. Funeral service on Friday October 2nd, Church of St John the Baptist, London. Flowers by family only. Donations to St John the Baptist Church, London. Tel: 01-479 3111.

BOUNCE - On September 25th, 1992, suddenly, Hector Bounce, aged 88, beloved husband of Jean, and much loved father of John, David, and Mary. Burial at St John's Church, Hurst Green, Oxford, on Friday October 2nd at 11.30 am. Family flowers only. Donations to St John's Church, Hurst Green, Oxford. Tel: 01865 713777.

BROWN - On September 28th, 1992, peacefully after 10 months' struggle with Motor Neurone Disease, Dr Ben Brown, aged 53, beloved husband of Hilary, and much loved father of John, David, and Mary. Burial at St John's Church, Hurst Green, Oxford, on Friday October 2nd at 11.30 am. Family flowers only. Donations to St John's Church, Hurst Green, Oxford. Tel: 01865 713777.

COOKSON - On September 29th, 1992, at home, Peter Henry Cookson M.C., D.F.C., beloved husband of the late Joan and much loved father and grandfather. Funeral service at St Peter's Church, Uxbridge, on Tuesday October 6th at 11 am, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund c/o Major Stuart Smith. Tel: 01895 471111.

HAYLAWS - On September 30th, 1992, at home, John Haylaws, aged 84, beloved husband of the late Mary, and much loved father and grandfather. Funeral service at St Peter's Church, Uxbridge, on Tuesday October 6th at 11 am, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund c/o Major Stuart Smith. Tel: 01895 471111.

GRUFFE - On September 28th, 1992, peacefully at home, Dorothy Margaret, beloved wife of Tony and much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral service at St Peter's Church, Uxbridge, on Tuesday October 6th at 11 am, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund c/o Major Stuart Smith. Tel: 01895 471111.

INGLES - On September 25th, 1992, at Grantham Hospital, aged 84 years, Canon Angus, beloved husband of the late Kathleen, and much loved father and grandfather. Funeral service at St Peter's Church, Uxbridge, on Tuesday October 6th at 11 am, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund c/o Major Stuart Smith. Tel: 01895 471111.

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DEATHS

LEEMING - On September 25th, 1992, suddenly at Worcester, J.A. Leeming, aged 88, beloved husband of the late Mary, and much loved father of John, David, and Mary. Burial at Little Shelford, Cambridgeshire, on Monday October 5th at 11.30 am. Flowers by family only. Donations to Little Shelford Church, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire CB2 8JH.

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OBITUARIES

WILLIAM DOUGLAS HOME



William Douglas Home, playwright and author, died at his home in Hampshire on September 28 aged 80. He was born in Edinburgh on June 3, 1912.

WHEN in April 1951 William Douglas Home went to see Tommy Brand, later Lord Hampden, to ask for his daughter's hand in marriage there seemed a high possibility of refusal. Douglas Home, on his own reckoning was a "cashiered officer, and an ex-convict, what's more. Not to mention a dramatic author, so-called, with a new play on in London that won't last a month." But he got his wife, Rachel, in a marriage which lasted until his death and he went on writing plays, more than 40 of them. There were flops, usually when he turned to historical subjects: no-one now much remembers *Bezzi* or *The Douglas Cause*. But William Douglas Home at his most urbane could command the theatre's top stars and at one point had four plays running simultaneously in the West End.

The Douglas Homes were a large, comfortably rich and tightly-knit family. William's elder brothers were Alec, who was to become Conservative prime minister, and the ornithologist Henry, whose son Charlie was to edit *The Times*. He followed both to Eton, where he overcame his prep school nickname of "Codfish" and, where Alec described him as "rather good-looking, in an Asiatic kind of way". His father, the thirteenth Earl of Home, attained theatrical immortality when William used him as the model for the eccentric peer, the Earl of Lister, in his early success *The Children of Lister*, who is in the habit of potting rabbits from his dining room window.

William Douglas Home's Oxford career was erratic. He was rusticated for attending smart London dinner parties, when he should have been behind New College's gates, and

made the national press — "PEER'S SON SENT DOWN". He drove to his finals in a phaeton drawn by a large horse irreverently named Lily after Oxford's lady mayoress. And eventually he picked up a fourth for answering a lot of questions, but not necessarily those set by the examiners. More importantly he formed a lifelong friendship with the future cricket commentator, Brian Johnston.

His taste for the theatre was sparked by a performance from John Gielgud in *Richard of Bordeaux*. While at Oxford he wrote a play called *Great Possessions*, about Buchananism, which was staged at the "Q" Theatre and moved to the Duke of York's. He applied for RADA: was accepted without huge enthusiasm, and eventually made his stage debut with the Brighton repertory company in 1937. The immediate pre-war years, partly spent in an Eaton Square flat shared with Johnston, were distinctly Wodehousian. Douglas Home took his tails to the theatre, sometimes to wear as one of the butlers he was required to play on stage but more likely to don after the curtain had come down for a post-theatre dinner party.

The outbreak of war brought out Douglas Home's first major *crise de conscience*. He was a conscientious objector in the sense that he always believed there was room for negotiation with Germany because of the number of citizens there unsympathetic to the Nazi cause. However, he did join up and became an officer. This did not prevent him, though, fighting three by-elections while in the army (always unsuccessfully) as an independent standing against Churchill's demand for "Unconditional Surrender".

Douglas Home's strongly held beliefs were put to their severest test when he was part of the force ordered to take Le Havre. He insisted that the civilians should be evacuated before



William Douglas Home holds the reins at Oxford, with Brian Johnston, right, clutching Lily's bridle — from *Old Men Remember* (Collins & Brown, 1991)

the bombardment, a request which was refused on the grounds of lack of time, although the German commander was agreeable. Captain Douglas Home spent the battle, during which there was considerable loss of life, on the sidelines. He drew attention to his action in a newspaper letter and, mainly because of this, was court-martialled, stripped of his rank and sentenced to a year's imprisonment.

He paid deeply for his actions and the scar remained. As late as 1991 he applied for a rescinding of the court martial order and the Queen's pardon, but the appeal was turned down. In 1944 he was sent first to Wormwood Scrubs and then to Wakefield Prison. These experiences formed his first great theatrical success, *Now Barabbas*, written in 1946 after his release. This wholly realistic play of prison life began at the Boltons Theatre Club in Chelsea, before moving to the Vaudeville. It was later filmed, with Richard Greene and Cedric Hardwicke.

The Vaudeville was also the theatre for his next play, *The Children of Lister*, which ran for two years. It too, was filmed, with the title changed to *The Amazing Mr. Beecham* for the American market. In it William Douglas Home used both his family and his knowledge of politics. He touched a chord in what seemed to many to be a topsy-turvy post-war world and he provided a plum part for the veteran actor A. E. Matthews as the Earl of Lister.

Matthews, in his mid eighties, was asked how he managed to keep acting and replied "I read *The Times* obituary column and if I'm not there I go on stage." Douglas Home would have written that line, which was later recycled by many actors.

Plays followed in a steady flow, some well received and some not. When the audience — and especially the gallery — showed disapproval Douglas Home was quite ready to show his own disapproval in a curtain speech. His light boulevard comedy style was generally preferred to his historical pieces. In the latter, such as *The Thistle and the Rose*, he was apt to rail at his own family history. There was trouble, too, when he attempted a subject considered

risqué. Aunt Edwina concerned a sex change, which some of Home's regular admirers considered rather disgusting, and not even a series of impassioned stage speeches could keep it going.

Probably his biggest popular success came in 1955 with *The Reluctant Debutante*. The cast was much to Home's liking. He shared a passion for horse racing with Wilfrid Hyde-White. Celia Johnson was a friend and a favourite actress, who was to appear in several more of his plays: the girl of the title who rebels against the London "season" marked the debut of Anna Massey. All brought exactly the polish to proceedings, required by "The Deb". It had a long run at the Cambridge before going to Broadway and onto the screen. For the film William Douglas Home had to do a little hasty rewriting when MGM insisted on casting Sandra Dee in the title role.

Douglas Home became an international name and for a moment it looked as though Hollywood might gobble him up. Dino De Laurentiis signed him to script a picture called *The Best of Enemies*, starring David Niven and Alberto Sordi; but there were few of his words left in the final version, as he described ruefully in his second volume of autobiography, *Mr Home, pronounced Hume*.

Back in London there was a revolution in theatrical taste to contend with. John Osborne's *Look Back in Anger* had set the Royal Court Theatre alight and a great gap was opening between Sloane Square and Shaftesbury Avenue. Douglas Home remained firmly anchored at the latter address and had no truck whatsoever with the so-called kitchen sink movement. He preferred to stay with white tie and tails, so much so that his children once snidely suggested that his next play should be called *Butlers in Space*. But he did begin to have the first of many brushes with the critics, especially those of a leftist disposition, which continued over the years.

The output remained unabated, with the previous mixture of hits and flops. Among the former was *The Secretary Bird*, which recovered from an obscure opening in Swanage to provide a juicy part for Kenneth

More. It came to the Savoy, was a success in Australia and surfaced in Paris under the title of *Canard à l'orange*. *Lady Boothroyd* of the *Foray* was written for the Cassons, but eventually ended as *Lloyd George Knew My Father*, with Ralph Richardson in the lead. Douglas Home was fluent, too fluent his detractors claimed. *The Dame of Sark* was written in five days, he recalled, just in time to catch the Saturday racing on television, an important hour in the family home as far as its head was concerned.

William Douglas Home was very much part of the commercial theatre establishment but he remained unperformed by the subsidised sector. The nearest he came to it was in 1978 with *The Kingfisher*, which Ralph Richardson wanted to do at the National. Peter Hall was in agreement and Lindsay Anderson was set to direct. But the National suddenly came under attack for putting on too many "lightweight" comedies and then transferring them to the West End. So the project was abandoned and *The Kingfisher* became another Shaftesbury Avenue play, with Richardson, Celia Johnson and Alan Webb, running for six months at the Lyric.

This and a lesser piece, *Rolls Royces*, were his last successes, with *The Kingfisher* going to Broadway — and Australia (with Google Withers and John McCallum). Douglas Home went on writing during the Eighties but often the plays did not get beyond a regional run. He was openly disappointed that his attempt to have his army cashiering revoked by the Ministry of Defence was unsuccessful — a television programme was made about the episode after a collection of the letters he wrote home from the front had been published in 1985 under the title *Sins of Commission*. In 1991 his third volume of autobiography came out, *Old Men Remember*. That was to be the final reminiscence of a man who had been an entertainer from his school days on.

He leaves his widow, Rachel (Baroness Deane), a son and three daughters.

APPRECIATIONS

Dr George Crile, Jr

AS A close friend for some 40 years of Dr George Crile, Jr, "Barney" Crile as he was known to all and sundry, I must point out that your obituary notice (September 19) began by referring to George Washington Crile. Washington was the middle name of his father, whose illustration you also carried. George Crile, Sr, was one of the founders of the Cleveland Clinic, who died in 1943.

However, I can fully endorse your obituary's admiration for Barney's magnificent work in promoting the more kindly treatment of breast cancer in the United States. He was, indeed, an outstanding man who shone in many and varied subjects apart from surgery.

He was the first, for example, to make some stunning underwater natural history movies off the Florida Keys (with his cine camera enclosed in a windowed bag from an anaesthetic machine). He not only explored and filmed the first eighteenth century sunken wreck there but proved that it was a British man-of-war which had sunk in 1744. By determined research at the Record Office in London he was able to establish that this was the HMS *Loce*.

In regard to the treatment of breast carcinoma Barney was ever mindful of his indebtedness to the late Sir Geoffrey Keynes, who pioneered conservative surgery for breast carcinoma, at St Bartholomew's Hospital in the 1920s and '30s.

With two colleagues, I later studied the Barts' cases of that period: this left us with the firm conviction that survival was not prejudiced by more limited surgery and (as a practising English surgeon — nor a "Scottish physician", as described by your obituary) I abandoned the radical operation in 1952.

It is also vital to mention the radiotherapist, Professor Robert McWhirter, who had worked at Barts in the 1920s

when he came under Keynes's influence. McWhirter later persuaded most of his Edinburgh colleagues to abandon the radical operation. The occasional vilification which pioneers of kinder breast surgery suffered in this country was as nothing compared with the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune subsequently borne by Crile in the US.

His moral courage and sane defence of his philosophy, in this as in other controversial matters, were quite outstanding. Both he and his father were honorary fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Dr Crile's two marriages were extraordinarily happy and successful. Your notice is correct in reporting that his first wife, Jane Halle Crile, died of breast cancer in 1963.

His second wife, Helga Sandburg Crile (youngest daughter of the poet Carl Sandburg) had her breast cancer treated by local excision in 1974 and survives in rugged health. And, just to give encouragement to other women, pictures of Helga and of her breast X-ray appeared in the November 1974 issue of *McCall's*, and subsequently in *Paris Match* and *Stern*.

Barney's last book, his remarkable autobiography *The Way It Was*, was published just before his death.

Sir Reginald Murley, president of Royal College of Surgeons of England, 1977-1980



Inge Henderson

INGE Henderson (obituary September 22) was indeed everything your obituary described, but she was much more. Her work as an Alexander teacher was always likely to provide more than just effective remedial posture, for she was a healer of sometimes magical power. I write as one of many whom she brought back from near immobility to complete and lasting recovery.

And she did not just collect people, although the description is a happy one. People collected her. Her magnetic capacity for attracting friendship was astonishing, and she was often prepared to share with others her many secret places, of which her gift to me of the north Norfolk marshes was but one.

How surprised she will have been to have merited an obituary in *The Times* — but how wonderful that she was.

Michael Levene



PAUL GARBER

Paul E. Garber, curator of the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, Virginia, died on September 23 aged 93. He was born in Atlantic City on August 31, 1899.

WASHINGTON'S Air and Space Museum, one of the American capital's major tourist attractions, might never have existed had it not been for Paul Garber's driving passion for collecting aeroplanes and all things connected to manned flight. By 1946, after working for the Smithsonian Institution for 26 years, he had built up such a massive collection that a new building to house it all became a virtual necessity.

Garber loved everything that flew. His obsession began at the age of five when an

uncle gave him a kite, and he began building and collecting model aircraft. In 1909 he saw Orville Wright fly in Virginia, and while still a teenager built and flew a glider with an 18-foot wingspan. He learned to fly powered aircraft while serving as a sergeant with the United States Army in the first world war but never became a professional pilot. Instead, after working briefly with the ground crew of the Postal Air Mail, Garber joined the staff of the Smithsonian Institution in 1920, and was destined to remain with it for 67 years.

At first he worked on repairing mechanical artifacts and making models, but soon became an assistant curator. In 1927 he brought off a major coup when Charles Lindbergh flew the Atlantic in the *Spirit of St Louis*. "I felt in my bones

Lindbergh would make it, and that he and his airplane would be famous," Garber said later. "I decided right then to get that plane." And he did.

The Smithsonian sent a congratulatory telegram that was waiting for Lindbergh on his arrival in Paris, asking him to donate the *Spirit of St Louis*. Lindbergh went on better: he delivered it personally, and the aircraft, hanging from the ceiling, became the aerospace museum's most popular exhibit. Years later, when Lindbergh asked to see it again, Garber put up a ladder after the museum closed for the night so that the pilot could climb into the cockpit and reminisce.

After serving in the US Navy during the second world war, during which he was put in charge of producing models to help pilots and gunners

identify enemy aircraft, Garber won for the aerospace museum its most treasured possession: the Wright Brothers' biplane that first flew at Kitty Hawk in 1903. His other acquisitions, among thousands, included Admiral Richard Byrd's furred helmet and the B29 bomber *Enola Gay* — which dropped the first atomic bomb, on Hiroshima.

Although he never earned a degree, in spite of studying at several universities, Garber was the recipient of numerous awards and one honorary doctorate. He was also three-time president of the Early Birds of Aviation, a fraternity of pilots who flew solo before 1916. He continued to work at the Smithsonian as a full-time historian emeritus until 1987.

Paul Garber is survived by two sons and a daughter.

DR RICHARD TURNER

Dr Richard Wainwright Duke Turner, OBE, cardiologist, died on September 1 aged 83. He was born on May 19, 1909.

DICK Turner was a pioneer of cardiac surgery in Edinburgh and the fully recorded experiences of Turner and Andrew Logan, his principal surgical colleague, were among the most valuable of their time.

Turner subsequently became eminent in the fields of the management of high blood pressure and the prevention of coronary artery disease.

A graduate of Cambridge and St Thomas's Hospital, London, he served with distinction as a lieutenant colonel in the Royal Army Medical Corps in the Middle East during the second world war and was appointed OBE.

As consultant physician and cardiologist to the Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, and senior lecturer and subsequently reader in the department of medicine, he was responsible for the creation and development of an active and thriving department of cardiology.

He also became a resolute campaigner to reduce consumption of dairy products, producing many a flutter among farmers and some colleagues.

Turner was a keen traveller and held teaching rounds in many countries. He once took an electrocardiograph on a crocodile, which headed for the river dragging his ECG machine behind it, and helped to diagnose a cardiac disorder in a racehorse.

He leaves a widow, three sons and a daughter.

Receptions

The White Ensign Association. The Princess Royal attended a reception given last night at St James's Palace by the White Ensign Association. Afterwards the Royal Navy Presentation Team presented "The Royal Navy Today". Others attending were:

Mr and Mrs D. Alvey, Mr and Mrs M. Ashcroft, Dr and Mrs L. Addison, Commander A. Alexander, Mrs P. B. Baker, Sir Peter and Lady Balfour, Mrs J. Bannister, Sir Christopher and Lady Benson, Mr and Mrs N. Benson, Mr and Mrs M. Ben, Lieutenant-General Sir Henry and Lady Beverley, Mr and Mrs P. T. Bewsey, Captain G. K. Bilton, Mr and Mrs P. Broome, Mr and Mrs A. Brown, Sir Brian and Lady Brown, Mr and Mrs M. Brown, Mr and Mrs A. Budge, Major-General and Mrs D. Burden, Sir Peter and Lady Cazel.

Mr and Mrs J. H. Chidsey, Mr and Mrs J. Coates, Mr and Mrs B. Collins, Captain P. A. Collins, Mr and Mrs A. Compain, Mr S. D. Corman, Commodore P. J. Cowling, Mr and Mrs R. Crawford, Sir John and Lady Cusker.

Mr and Mrs J. Darr, Sir Robert and Lady Davidson, Mr and Mrs J. Davies, Mr and Mrs D. Donne, Mr and Mrs A. Dorrain, Mr and Mrs N. Eagle, Commodore and Mrs N. Eastleigh, Mr and Mrs M. Farrer, Mr and Mrs M. Forster, Mr and Mrs J. Fowler, Miss T. Gibbs, Mr A. Gosling, Sir Donald Gosling, Mr and Mrs P. J. Green, Mr and Mrs R. Gregory, Commander P. and Mrs P. Hancock, Sir Christopher Harding, Sir Philip and Lady Harris, Mr and Mrs M. Heath, Mr and Mrs Y. Hedar, Mr and Mrs M. Henderson, Lieutenant-Commander S. A. Hewitt, WRENS, Rear-Admiral R. Hogg, Sir Derrick Holden-Brown, Mr and Mrs N. Humphreys, Mr and Mrs C. Ingram.

Mr P. Insall, Captain and Mrs A. Jones, Miss D. Kaimowitz, Mr and Mrs P. D. Keller, Mr and Mrs M. Kingston, Mr and Mrs G. Lahrman, Mr and Mrs D. Lally, Surgeon Rear-Admiral and Mrs D. A. Lammiman, Mr and Mrs B. U. A. Lambert, Rear-Admiral and Mrs J. S. Lang, Mr and Mrs F. Law, Mr and Mrs C. Legge, Mr and Mrs J. Lelland, Dr I. Lennan, Sir Peter and Lady Leslie, WRENS, Mr and Mrs J. Sunley, Captain I. B. Sutherland, Miss A. Szadziowski, Mr M. Tawie, Sir Mark Thomson, Sir Lady Jacqueline Thomson, Miss J. Tille, Admiral Sir John and Lady Treacher, Mr N. Truscott, Mr and Mrs T. Ward, Rear-Admiral and Mrs A. Wheatley, Brigadier and Mrs N. White, Rear-Admiral N. Wilkinson, Captain and Mrs D. G. Wilson, Mr R. Wright, Mr and Mrs J. Young and Miss A. Yusuf.

Princess Margaret presented Mr Duncan M.S. Simpson with the

Founders Medal at a reception given by the Air League last night at the RAF Club. She was received by Dr J. E. Henderson, president of the league, Mr Michael J. Cobham, chairman, Air Chief Marshal Sir Lewis Hodges, president of the club, and Air Commodore H.W. Hall, chairman.

Luncheon

Carlton Club. Lord Halsbury of St Marylebone, KC, CH, was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon of the Political Committee of the Carlton Club held yesterday at the club.

Appointments

The following to be members of the National Council for Educational Technology (NCET):

Mrs Sandra Davies, Dr Diana Laurillard, Ms Unaiya Malik, Ms Latha Menon, Mr Kevin Satchwell, Mr John Young.

Legal

Mr Justice Brooke and Judge Sumner to be members of the Main Board of the Judicial Studies Board.

Miss Gayle Hallon (South Eastern Circuit), Mr Gerald Michael Clifton (Northern Circuit) and Mr Simon Pascoe Grenfell (North Eastern Circuit) to be circuit judges.

including those of partners Dairmaid Glencarm-Campbell, 48, Greg Morgan, 47, and Mike Oxide, 47. Knight

Carol Leonard

million levy demanded from names.

Yours faithfully, ALAN SMALLBONE, 30 Temple Fortune Lane, NW11.

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Top judge attacks new rules on sentencing

Continued from page 1

Judges continue to sentence on the scale in which they have in the past, prisoners may find themselves serving longer than they would under the old regime.

To tackle this, Lord Taylor is issuing a practice direction to judges tomorrow, spelling out the effect of the new parole provisions, which bring a closer match between the sentence served and sentence imposed. Judges, who had always been told to ignore the parole and remission aspects of a sentence, would now have to take them into account and "have regard to the time going to be served".

Lord Taylor was concerned, however, about how the public might perceive shorter sentences. "I hope the public are not misled," he said. "What I fear might happen is that if judges pass lower sentences now than they did before, the public will say we are going soft. I hope the public will say: 'now judges are sentencing offenders to something nearer to what they will actually serve'."

In his wide-ranging press conference, Lord Taylor went on to reject the call by Lord Williams of Mostyn, the Bar chairman, for some kind of inspectorate or watchdog to take judges to task if they were rude or lazy. Judges were not beyond criticism, Lord Taylor said. But such a body might cause judges to "look over their shoulders" and that could threaten their independence.

There was "plenty of opportunity" for judges to be spoken to by the Lord Chancellor or someone else if their actions warranted it. "I see no particular advantage in pilorying judges in public if it only diminishes confidence in their sitting."

He also said that while he supported letting solicitor-advocates into the higher courts, subject to ensuring that they were adequately trained, he opposed a "state prosecution service" in which crown prosecutors would take cases in the higher courts.

The issue of whether employed lawyers should have wider rights of audience — strongly advocated by Barbara Mills QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, is still being considered by a special committee set up by the government.

JPs' regrets, page 4
Leading article, page 13



Suffer the children: Ms Hepburn at a feeding station

Actress finds a slice of hell in Somalia

AUDREY Hepburn spoke emotionally yesterday of her visit to the starving in Somalia last week in her role as goodwill ambassador to the United Nations Children's Fund (Kate Alderson writes). The actress described the scenes of dying children in camps as a nightmare, and said she now found it difficult to sleep. "No media report, however excellent, could have prepared me for the unspeakable agony I felt at seeing countless little, fragile, emaciated children," she said. "Most of them don't want to eat or drink any more, they can't. I'll never forget their huge eyes in tiny faces and the terrible silence. When a child can't hear you or see you — it makes you feel so desperate." It was, said Ms Hepburn, a "slice of hell" and she appealed for international help to help the country survive.

Continued from page 1

Euro-sceptics continued, with Teddy Taylor, secretary of the Conservative European Reform Group, commenting: "The Germans are getting too big for their jack-boots. Britain's partners are trying to discipline Britain for its 'bad conduct' over the sterling crisis and ERM — and trying to



Praying for help: the actress pauses in describing the horrors of famine yesterday

Major scours Europe's capitals for a deal on ERM

Continued from page 1

humiliate us as well," John Gummer, the agriculture minister, said Sir Teddy's statement was unacceptable. "We are not talking about that Germany, we are talking about the Germany that is a lynchpin of the free world," he said, dismissing "the call and name" from Lord Tebbit and Sir Teddy. He

praised Germany's post-war economic achievements, pointing out that Britain would be affected by the power of the mark and the guilders whether in or out of the ERM. The confusion in government economic policy also showed no sign of abating. Officials admitted that there would be no detailed statement on the government's new economic policies for at least another month. The earliest opportunity for the Chancellor to spell out his new monetary policy would be October 29, when he is due to deliver his traditional Mansion House speech to the City. Promises of tighter government spending plans and

fiscal policies, which Norman Lamont has conceded could be used as the anti-inflationary counterpart to lower interest rates, would have to wait even longer. The Chancellor was unlikely to say anything about fiscal plans until his autumn statement.

Lamont focus, pages 6 & 7

Conference sketch

Just brill... know what I mean, John

Yesterday at Blackpool was John's day — John Prescott's, that is. The other John was a damp squib, but Prescott, who spoke before him, went like a rocket and was rewarded with the first standing ovation the Winter Gardens had heard all week.

The conference loved the speech but, more important, they loved the man. At subsequent meetings throughout the day, Prescott encountered standing ovations whenever he entered a room: he did not even need to speak.

Indeed it is a moot point whether Mr Prescott does "speak" in the sense in which you and I understand the term. His long and mostly unrequited love affair with the English language generates more of what Willie Whitelaw once described as "genuine noises based on emotion" than prose. But who cares? They are such magnificent noises! Yesterday's effort, one of his more thoughtful orations, hunched from phrases like "environmental leper of Europe," through "dustbins of the world" to ideas for "powering the individual" who was concerned "about toxic reasons." "Public provision," concluded Prescott, "can be often far more superior than that produced by markets."

Let pedants quibble: you know what he means. I know what he means. Lab-our knows what he means, and — mark this — they know he means it. That's why they cheer. This sort of emotional honesty is water in the desert for Labour.

After years of teasing Mr Prescott, I have begun to wonder whether we might be wiser to join his fan club before the rush. It struck me yesterday that we may be looking at the Boris Yeltsin of British politics. John may or may not be a drinking man — I have no idea — and Boris may or may not inflict GBH on the Russian language: but in other respects there is a similarity.

Both are bruisers, both can be crude, and both are nationalists whose charm is inexplicable to foreigners. Both could have taxi drivers eating out of their hands. Like Boris, John has attained the status of a man of whom gaffes are expected and in whom gaffes are loved — because "he speaks his mind". This is an envi-

able status for a politician. Both, too, are simplifiers.

There were few ideas in Prescott's speech and no arguments at all. But, like a big cat handler, he knew where his party wanted to be stroked: he knew how the fur lay. He did not say anything rude, or indeed anything at all, about what he calls the common market but everyone knows what he thinks. With Mr Gould's departure the mantle falls silently upon Prescott, and can be worn silently. Perhaps we underestimate him.

If the other John's speech was anything to go by, his leader needs him badly. Before Mr Smith made it, sketch writers had pencilled in to their columns a draft paragraph pronouncing the Leader's speech a smash hit but remarking that, with the whole Cabinet on their backs, legs in the air, it would be impossible to fail.

It was not. Thanking Mr Smith after his speech, the chairlady said: "John is a brilliant parliamentarian." And that was the problem.

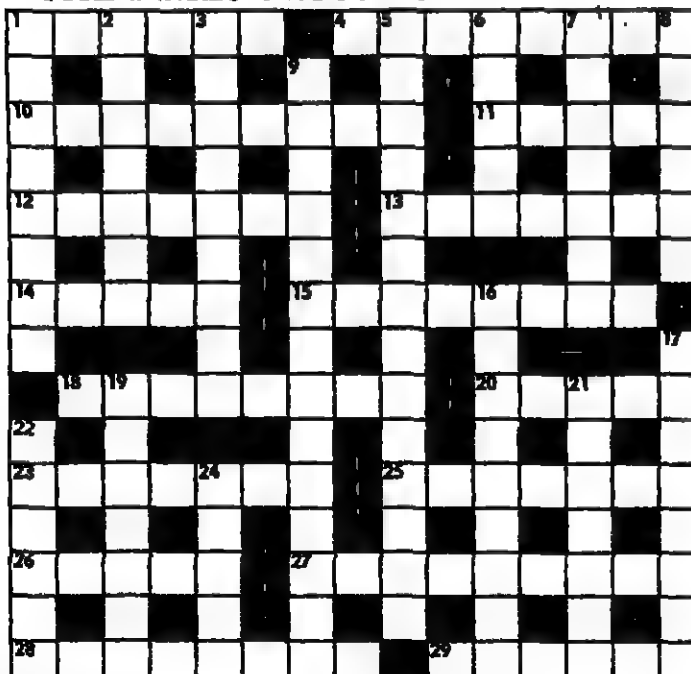
It is no good asking a tennis champion to reproduce his famous volleys alone, with nobody to bounce them off. A few interruptions, foisted by Mr Smith's lethally good-humoured scorn, would have done wonders for this heap of wet seaweed masquerading as a speech. A thin affair. Perhaps the Liberals' Alan Smith might consider standing in for Smith at Labour conferences to lend omph.

An indifferent text, delivered with passion — as Neil Kinnock could do — would have worked. An intelligent text, delivered in Smith's measured tones, would have impressed in a different way. But this was an indifferent text delivered without passion — actually just plain larp.

The underlying beliefs that inspire and guide us... new and imaginative solutions to our problems... a time when the hearts and minds of our people have been moved by the suffering in Somalia... more than anything today Britain needs leadership... Aargh! Smith's peroratory cry — "there is a void at the heart of our public life in Britain" — prompted a thought which it would be unkind to articulate.

MATTHEW PARRIS

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,037



ACROSS

- Draw off ship on rocks (6)
- In turn, want to woo (5,3)
- Rugby player who appears in pantomime? (9)
- BBC didn't start off free (5)
- Performer's attire's bizarre (7)
- Fantasy by Millais, a work he had trouble circulating (7)
- Out of the game, I am beat (5)
- To deceive a gangster takes very little time (8)
- Way of escaping from a difficult situation after game goes the other way (5)
- Drawing good, in the main (5)
- Related to 13, but relates with difficulty (7)
- Infringing the rules, so to speak, in sport (7)

DOWN

- Drink has a bite, as drunkard might say (8)
- Mineral — it's kept in combustible heaps (7)
- Lie in some deliveries upset the P.M. (9)
- Be on to a good thing with dirty boots (4,2,4,4)
- Where to find sleeper in express (5)
- Visitor to Land's End finds bunting displayed there (7)
- Entrap, to put it another way (6)
- A tragic character, much abused — he subjected our... (4,3,7)
- ... attendants to loss of earnings initially, after we headed for the sunset (9)
- Medicinal liquid protects most of you up the spout (8)
- Round ass up for seasoning (7)
- Please old priest with it — he takes a quarter (7)
- Battle involving long and hasty retreat (6)
- Chinese society dominating a kingdom in the Pacific (5)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,028

CLASH NAMSTRING
O M A E I R L E
CHANGING OILER
K I G T Y N W A M
R U N O F F F O R E S T R Y
O T J E S
B I G G E N W I S P
I O E B T P S E
N O D E B O T T L E C K
A N E R
W E L L I N G P I D G I N
H M M M S A E
O X I D E E A R T H W O R M
O N L A E B E A
M A G I C A N T R Y D E M O N

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 19 of the 22 competitors. The fastest time being 6½ minutes, at the 1992 national final of The Times Inter-city Crossword Championships.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

- TWEAT**
a. A man's hood
b. The European shade
c. To pluck or tease
- SHOOGLY**
a. Trembling, unsteady
b. A left-arm bowler's googly
c. Crumbling, friable
- PROLESIS**
a. An older sister
b. Anticipation
c. Theft
- PARREL TRUCK**
a. A miner's burrow
b. A small wooden globe
c. Swagman's tucker

Answers on page 14

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North-west England 742
North-east England 743
Scotland 744
Northern Ireland 745

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest weather by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Cost: 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Eastern Britain will start cloudy with rain. Brighter weather over central and western areas will reach most parts by the afternoon. However, scattered showers over Wales and southwest England will spread to some inland parts by the afternoon, before dying away again towards evening. Fresher, especially in the southeast. Outlook: rain spreading to western and central areas tomorrow will reach eastern parts during Friday.

ABROAD

Midday	1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-80	81-90	91-100
Algeria	23	73	1	Medellin	19	88	8	Algeria	23	73
Algeria	23	73	1	Medellin	19	88	8	Algeria	23	73
Algeria	23	73	1	Medellin	19	88	8	Algeria	23	73
Algeria	23	73	1	Medellin	19	88	8	Algeria	23	73
Algeria	23	73	1	Medellin	19	88	8	Algeria	23	73
Algeria	23	73	1	Medellin	19	88	8	Algeria	23	73
Algeria	23	73	1	Medellin	19	88	8	Algeria	23	73
Algeria	23	73	1	Medellin	19	88	8	Algeria	23	73
Algeria	23	73	1	Medellin	19	88	8	Algeria	23	73
Algeria	23	73	1	Medellin	19	88	8	Algeria	23	73

AROUND BRITAIN

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
London	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0
London	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0
London	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0
London	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0
London	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0
London	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0
London	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0
London	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0
London	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0
London	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 20C (68F); min 6pm to 6am, 13C (55F). Humidity: 50-60%. Wind: 4-6 mph. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 5.0 hr. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,015.3 mbars, falling.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Northolt, Greater London, 21C (70F). Lowest day temp: Llanelli, South Wales, 14C (57F). Highest rainfall: Dunsfold, Surrey, 0.2in; highest sunshine: Eastbourne, East Sussex, 9 hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 18C (64F); min 6pm to 6am, 12C (54F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 5.0 hr.

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 20C (68F); min 6pm to 6am, 13C (55F). Humidity: 50-60%. Wind: 4-6 mph. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 5.0 hr.

TOURIST RATES

Australia	2.55	Bank	2.55
Australia	2.55	Bank	2.55
Australia	2.55	Bank	2.55
Australia	2.55	Bank	2.55
Australia	2.55	Bank	2.55
Australia	2.55	Bank	2.55
Australia	2.55	Bank	2.55
Australia	2.55	Bank	2.55
Australia	2.55	Bank	2.55
Australia	2.55	Bank	2.55

NOON TODAY

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Pound rises more than five cents against the dollar

BY ANATOLE KALETSKY
ECONOMICS EDITOR

STERLING rose sharply yesterday against the dollar, recouping more than half its losses against the American currency since the devaluation of September 16. By mid-afternoon in New York, the pound had risen to \$1.7830, more than five cents above its London close of \$1.73 on Monday and only 8 cents below its level on September 15.

The pound also stabilised against the mark comfortably above the DM2.50 level that is beginning to be viewed by some investors as an informal government floor. The Bank of England said that the exchange-rate would continue to play a role in government policy, despite Britain's departure from the European exchange-rate mechanism two weeks ago. But the Bank's reference to sterling, which came in a speech delivered by Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the Governor, was one of the least bold statements made about currencies by an official spokesman in recent years.

The stock market, which continued to fall yesterday morning amid the growing signs of disarray in the government, bounced back sharply in the afternoon, as the strength of the pound encouraged new hopes of a cut in interest rates next week. Some analysts saw the Governor's speech as an indication that Treasury and Bank officials were trying to restrain the government from further sharp cuts in interest rates. The Chancellor and prime minister are coming under strong pressure from political and some business leaders to cut base rates by another point in the run-up to next week's Conservative party conference. However, the strength of the pound on the foreign exchanges in the past two days, especially against the dollar, suggested that a further rate cut could well be possible without contradicting the public line taken by Mr Leigh-Pemberton yesterday.

The Governor simply said that Britain could "not afford to ignore the exchange rate" if the government's counter-inflationary goals were to be achieved. Even though Britain no longer had an obligation to defend any particular currency level, exchange rates had "a profound effect on our economic fortunes," he added.

The main factor driving the currency markets was the continuing fall in the dollar, which tumbled against the mark and the yen. The dollar selling, which began in the Far East and drove the American currency as low as DM1.42 at one point, was attributed to three factors. Tensions have subsided in the ERM, diminishing the safe haven attractions of the dollar and yen and driving investors back into the high-yielding European currencies, including the pound and lira, and the mark and franc. The growing perception that Bill Clinton is likely to beat George Bush in the presidential election has pushed long-term capital out of America. And the continuing weakness of the American economy has encouraged expectations that the Federal Reserve Board will cut interest rates again, probably on Friday when the unemployment figures are due to be announced.

However, some analysts warned that the speed of the dollar's fall could deter the Fed from easing policy any further.

Perot's future, page 4

Business failures increase by 40%

Further 4,000 job cuts add to industry gloom

BY PATRICIA TEHAN AND COLIN NARBROUGH

BRITISH industry faces another gloomy week with the news that more than 4,000 jobs are to be axed coinciding with a survey showing a 40 per cent rise in business failures this year.

Sears, the stores group, and the government's Defence Research Agency joined Northern Telecom, Pirelli Cables and Independent Television News in revealing plans to cut jobs. The news adds to last week's woes when more than 6,000 cuts were announced.

The biggest cut came from the government, whose DRA plans to cut more than 2,000 jobs in a rationalisation programme. The DRA will withdraw from a third of its 54 sites.

Another 1,800 jobs are under threat at British Shoe Corporation, which is to close 350 high street shoe shops, operating under the Dolcis, Saxone and Freeman Hardy & Willis banners, over the next three years.

However, Geoffrey Maitland Smith, chairman of Sears, the BSC parent company, said the jobs figure represented "a worst case scenario," which would apply "only if we were to shut all these shops tomorrow."

About a third of the workforce employed by BSC is part-time, working only on Saturdays. The company also pointed out that the average length of service in its shoe shops was between 6 and 18 months. Many staff would therefore go through natural wastage. BSC operates more than 1,200 shops, as well as almost 600 concessions. It employs about 12,000.

Northern Telecom said 400 jobs will go from factories in Northern Ireland, South Wales and Essex. The company, which makes telecommunication transmission equipment, said 320 production and support staff will go from the factory in Monks-town near Belfast by the end of the year.

Northern Telecom's plant at Cwmarn, South Wales, will lose 30 jobs and another 46 will go with the closure of its plant in Basildon, Essex. Pirelli Cables plans to axe almost 300 jobs by the end of the year, most of them through the closure of its copper cable factory at Bishopstoke, Hampshire. It said the work will be moved to its factory in Newport, South Wales. Another 50 jobs will go at Newport.

ITN is to shed 112 technical support and administrative jobs under strict cost-cutting measures imposed to meet a reduced budget for News At Ten and other ITV news bulletins, but ITN wants to squeeze about £10 million out of ITN's current £60 million-a-year budget. ITN said yesterday it plans to ask for volunteers, but cannot rule out compulsory redundancies.



New broom: Liam Strong, chief executive, is making £32.2 million provisions in the first half to restructure the group

Sears to close down 350 shoe shops

BY MICHAEL TATE, CITY EDITOR

SEARS, whose Dolcis, Saxone and Freeman Hardy & Willis chains sell one in every five pairs of shoes in Britain, will shut 350 of its 1,200 shoe shops over the next three years.

The shops, said by Liam Strong, the new chief executive, to be "not viable," employ about 1,800 staff, but Mr Strong did not expect wholesale redundancies. About a third are part-time workers, and given the normal high turnover, many more will go through natural wastage in the next three years. Sears, which also owns the Adams, Olympus, Miss Selfridge and Wallis chains, as well as the flagship Selfridges store in the West End of London, is providing £32.2 million for restructuring costs against its interim results. The charge wipes out the entire operating profit for the half-year to July, and leaves the group with a £8.8 million pre-tax loss.

The board has sliced 35 per cent off its interim dividend and promised a similar cut in the final, as Mr Strong, who last week reported the sale of the Fosters menswear business to its management at a cost of £80 million, sets about reviving the slumbering high street retailer's fortunes.

It means that the price of Sears' failure to take advantage of its prime position in footwear retailing and its disastrous venture into menswear, will be borne directly by shareholders. The interim dividend is cut from 1.525p a share to 1p, and "a like reduction" is intended in the final, said Geoffrey Maitland Smith, the chairman. This would indicate a total for the year of 3.5p a share, against 5.35p last year. "We have concluded it is no longer prudent to maintain a dividend uncovered by after-tax profits from trading," he added. Sears had maintained its dividend in the previous two years, despite slim earnings cover in 1990-1 and a lack of full cover last year.

The move was greeted with relief in the City, where investors have been aware of the group's shortcomings for some time, and are pleased to see action being taken.

Survival of MMI remains in balance

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

THE survival of Municipal Mutual Insurance (MMI), Britain's leading insurer of local authorities, remained in the balance, as hopes for a European rescue of the group turned away from Paris towards Belgium and Germany.

MMI, which has suffered huge losses in the past two years and needs an injection of funds to survive, continued to insist that its talks with La Garantie Mutuelle des Fonctionnaires (GMF), the French group, remained alive. Brian Wright, the chief executive of MMI, is due to fly out to Paris today or tomorrow for talks with GMF executives.

However, GMF, which agreed in principle to the rescue of MMI in July, is now insisting that it is not interested in the deal. The French company said MMI had "no deal with GMF," adding that an official comment would be made this week.

GMF's withdrawal would not necessarily sound the death knell for MMI as the French company is only one of nine companies in the Euro-safe group specialising in insurance for civil servants. Eurosafe has no member in the UK and a takeover of the personal lines operations of MMI represents a chance to break into the British market.

However, it is unlikely that Eurosafe would want to take on the loss-making public liability operations of MMI, leaving nine out of ten of Britain's local authorities without cover. A meeting between local authority associations and MMI was cancelled when MMI said it could not participate "because of the delicate nature of negotiations that MMI are having with GMF."

C&G cuts standard mortgage rate by 1%

BY LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

CHELTEMHAM & Gloucester Building Society is cutting 1 per cent off its standard mortgage rate, but it is delaying implementation until December for existing customers.

The rate will be 9.75 per cent (APR 10.3 per cent) for existing borrowers and 8.75 per cent for the first year for new borrowers taking loans under 80 per cent of a property's value. Other societies have cut to base rates of 9.99 and 9.95 per cent (APR 10.5 per cent) from November 1.

The reduction applies to new loans immediately. It cuts £43.75 a month from the payments on a £50,000 interest-only mortgage.

The society increased its standard mortgage rate by 0.24 per cent in July when National Savings was making strong inroads into the traditional customer base of societies. The government backed down and cut the interest rate on the First Option Bond and the higher mortgage rate lasted for only one week.

Most of C&G's borrowers are on its annual review system that is calculated in December and implemented in January.

The Nationwide Building Society is cutting savers' rates by up to 1.2 per cent from tomorrow while it is trimming its mortgage rate by only 0.75 per cent from November 1. The lowest tier of the 90-day notice, CapitalBuilder account, is cut from 7.7 per cent gross to 6.5 per cent gross. This is a net reduction of 0.9 per cent and a net rate of 4.88 per cent on sums up to £5,000. The lowest rate on its current account will be 3.5 per cent gross - 2.63 per cent after basic rate tax is deducted.

Fiat to lose its longtime driver

BY WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU

THE godfather of Italian industry, Gianni Agnelli, is to bow out from the chairmanship of Fiat, the car company controlled by the Agnelli family, in 1994.



Agnelli: built empire

The news of his departure comes at a time of profound political and economic upheavals in Italy and amid troublesome times for Fiat, the country's largest private-sector company. More important, his exit coincides with the end of a postwar consensus on politics, the economy and on industry, a consensus of which Signor Agnelli has been an integral and prominent part.

Signor Agnelli relayed the news of his departure in an answer to an innocent question during a shareholders' meeting at IFI, one of the Agnelli family's principal holding companies. He said that, being 71 now, he could not stand for reappointment in 1994 since under the

statutes of the company, nobody can stand for election to the presidency if he reaches the 75-age limit within the mandate, which normally runs for three years. More to the point, he said: "A quarter of a century as president, more than half a century as a member of the board, is too long rather than too short."

Giovanni Agnelli was born in 1921, the grandson of Giovanni Agnelli senior, the founder of Fiat. After the war, the young Giovanni, who had earlier graduated in law from the University of Turin, was appointed vice-chairman. But during this period he did not make his lasting reputation as a businessman, but as a playboy who lived life to the fullest. With the end of La Dolce Vita, for him as well as for Italy, he became Fiat's managing director in 1963 and chairman in 1966.

Since becoming chairman, Signor Agnelli built up the Fiat empire into today's industrial conglomerate. Appointed Senator for Life of the Italian Republic in 1981, he has been one of Italy's most influential figures, a man who is said to have had the ear of any Italian prime minister, whoever that happened to be at the time. Italian coalition governments may have come and gone, but the presence of Signor Agnelli was one most constant factors in Italian politics.

The next Agnelli in the long line will be Umberto, the younger brother of the grand old man, and the vice-chairman of Fiat.

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TODAY IN BUSINESS

HUSH HUSH

DER SPIEGEL

Der Spiegel suggests the Bonn-Paris axis may have forged a secret deal to hasten the pace of European monetary union. Page 21

PLANE TALK

United Airlines has tabled tough terms in return for support for BA's proposed investment in USAir. Page 18

FLAT NOTE



Richard Holland, of Bonney & Hawkes, reports a rise in interim profits but fears exist about prospects. Page 19

COAL CARTEL

Regional electricity companies are negotiating the current round of coal contracts as a cartel, with government backing. Page 19

PROPERTY



A 16-page supplement today assesses the state of the commercial property market and considers the prospects for a revival.

THE POUND

US dollar 1.7885 (+0.0415)
German mark 2.5272 (+0.0136)
Exchange index 83.7 (+1.1)
Bank of England official close (Apr)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 1876.6 (+3.5)
FT-SE 100 2585.5 (+5.5)
New York Dow Jones 3272.75 (-3.51)*
Tokyo Nikkei Avg 17748.09 (-224.52)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 9%
3-month interbank: 5 1/4%-5 1/2%
3-month eligible bills: 8 1/4%-9 1/4%
US: Prime Rate: 8%
Federal Funds: 3 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills: 2 7/8-2 7/16%
30-year bonds: 9 3/4%-9 7/8%

CURRENCIES

London: New York: £ \$1.7700
C: DM2.5214 C: DM1.4243*
C: Sfr12.2037 C: Sfr11.2443*
C: FF4.8225 C: FF4.8105*
C: Yen211.55 C: Yen191.93*
C: Index: 83.7 C: Index: 80.3
ECU: 10.782105 SDR: 80.840029
C: ECU: 27.8900 C: SDR: 119.0435
London: Foreign market close

GOLD

London: Fixing: AM \$347.70 PM \$347.50
Close \$348.45-348.55
Futures: 90-187.40
New York: COMEX \$347.25-347.75*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brant (Oct) \$20.20/bbl (\$20.30)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 139.9 August (1987=100)
* Denotes midday trading price

... in the year since Maxwell died. But she insists her friends are not on the agenda, adding

including those of partners Dairmaid Glencairn-Campbell, 48, Greg Morgan, 47, and Mike Oxley, 47, Knight

... women, then I'm an accident victim," he says.

CAROL LEONARD

treatment more into line with that of incorporated competitors. Cromer roundly declared that Parliament and government shared responsibility

million levy demanded from names. Yours faithfully, ALAN SMALLBONE, 30 Temple Fortune Lane, NW11.

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Power firms form cartel to negotiate coal deals

By Patricia Tehan

THE 12 regional electricity companies of England and Wales have begun negotiating the current round of coal contracts as a cartel.

They are believed to have government backing for their decision and have sought approval from the Office of Fair Trading. A representative of the 12 companies, with a legal adviser, flies to Brussels this week to inform EC competition authorities.

The trade department is believed to have given its approval to the move in the hope that it will get the talks moving again, clearing the way for the privatisation of British Coal.

Objections from the regional companies have held up the signing of a series of contracts between British Coal and the generators. The generators are unable to sign until they are sure they will be able to sell on the coal-fired power to regional supply companies.

The companies were objecting to the volume of power they would be expected to take under the proposals and the price. They are also trying to ensure they will not be penalised by their regulator for paying a higher price for coal power than they would for other sources of power.

The regional companies informed Sir Bryan Carsberg, director-general of Fair Trading, that for the purpose of the current negotiations, though the contracts for each company would be separate, they are negotiating as a group.

Heads of power supply from four companies, headed by Jim Keohane of East Midlands, are leading talks with the generators, reporting to the chairman and chief executives of six firms acting on behalf of all 12.

The supply manager for one company confirmed they are negotiating as a group. He said: "We do not want to come out of this process with contracts that are less favourable than the others are able to obtain. We want the same sort of value."

□ The Gas Consumers' Council said yesterday it has evidence that very large gas users have seen no benefit so far from attempts to reduce British Gas's share of the industrial gas market.

Ian Powe, Gas Council director, told a conference in Brussels that British companies are now paying a lot more than their European rivals. Mr Powe said that in The Netherlands, which, like Britain, has indigenous gas, companies pay 30 per cent less. Although France and Germany import most of their gas, prices are 20 per cent and 14 per cent lower.

Comment, page 21



Sour note: Richard Holland, chief executive, reported that the expected growth in Japan had failed to materialise

GPA warns of a significant reduction in trading profits

By Our City Staff

GPA Group, the Irish Republic aircraft leasing company that this month delivered a \$5 billion order with Boeing, has given a warning of a "significant" reduction in trading profit for the three months to end-September.

Tony Ryan, chairman and founder, told shareholders at the annual meeting in Shannon that it was probable that certain provisions and charges, primarily of a non-recurring nature, would be made in the financial year to March 1993.

They will include an estimated \$20 million in costs associated with the planned \$1 billion flotation of GPA

shares that was aborted in June, due to lack of investor support.

Dr Ryan said: "Such provisions and charges, some of which may be charged to second-quarter earnings, will not be material in relation to the value of GPA's assets, although they may be in the context of annual earnings."

GPA made net profits of \$268 million last year.

The group has agreed in principle with Boeing to defer delivery of up to 154 aircraft worth \$5 billion for up to three years.

GPA's leasing business is recovering well from the impact of the Gulf war, and 40

new leases were signed this month. However, the group continues to be affected by economic uncertainty, a temporary over-supply of aircraft, the consequences of the withdrawal of the share offer, and by weak lease rental margins and aircraft sales levels.

GPA has launched a \$1.5 billion fundraising programme involving the sale of stakes in aircraft to institutional investors. Plans for the sale of a \$752 million tranche involving 18 aircraft, the so-called Alps 2, will be unveiled soon.

In June, GPA raised \$521 million through an aircraft investment package.

Boosey & Hawkes shares fall 95p over profit fears

By Jon Ashworth

SHARES in Boosey & Hawkes, the instrument maker and music publisher, dropped 95p to 865p on fears of a fall in full-year profits.

The group, which reported first-half profits up 10 per cent to £1.44 million in the six months to end-June, has lost £200,000 over foreign exchange movements. Further setbacks are possible in the second half, particularly in Japan which, with the rest of the Far East, accounts for 20 per cent of sales.

Richard Holland, chief executive, said expected growth in Japan had failed to materialise. "We had anticipated growth in Japan, but there was no growth at all in the first half. Japan has been late into the recession."

"For the group, we had very good results in the first half in relation to the conditions we were experiencing. The currency thing is a hit, but long-term prospects remain good."

Sharp movements in the

foreign exchange market and sterling's exit from the ERM will have an adverse effect on imports from factories in France and Germany. Any advantage from the pound's devaluation will not feed through until next year.

The music publishing division has seen a slower rate of growth this year and the trend is expected to continue for some time. A deal to administer Granada Television's music publishing rights worldwide could pave the way for more growth.

The instrument division has been affected by the recession in the UK and tougher conditions in European markets. Turnover rose to £26.5 million (£24.5 million). Earnings per share were 18.6p (16.5p). The interim dividend is 6p (5.5p).

Kleinwort Benson and James Capel are thinking of revising full-year forecasts. They had been predicting pre-tax profits of £4.4 million for the year against £4 million in 1991.

Pound 'boost for oil'

The falling pound promises a bonanza for the oil industry by adding £2.5 million a day to the output of Britain's North Sea fields, economists said. A firmer dollar, in which oil is traded internationally, dramatically improved the value of output. Motorists are already paying more for their petrol as a result of sterling's plunge in the currency crisis.

Prices could rise further when demand for oil increases in the winter months at a time when many of the main producing countries are reaching their output limits. Royal Bank of Scotland economists, in their monthly North Sea report, predicted a "sharp improvement" for the industry.

In August, output rose by 2.6 per cent to just under 1.9 million barrels a day, but this was more than offset by a 3 per cent fall in prices to just under \$20 a barrel and a 1.2 per cent weakening of the dollar-sterling exchange rate. However, following Britain's exit from the European exchange-rate mechanism, the reverse looks like happening — a stronger dollar, with higher prices.

At the current average exchange rate of about \$1.75, the value of August's output would be boosted by £2.5 million a day to £21.7 million. The bank said: "Although September's figures for the value of production will show some of the effects of the decline in sterling's value, the full impact will not be seen until October's figures are collected."

Losses double at BB&E

British Building and Engineering Appliances' pre-tax losses more than doubled, from £575,000 to £1.2 million in the 15 months to June 30. There is no final dividend (0.5p), leaving nil (0.5p). But the group is said to be on course for recovery.

Chief named

Caledonian Newspaper Publishing, which owns George Outram, the publisher of *The Herald* and the *Glasgow Evening Times*, has appointed Ian Macpherson as non-executive chairman from October 9.

Global slips

Global Group's interim pre-tax profits fell 31 per cent to £658,000. Profits in the second half are unlikely to exceed the first. The interim dividend has been held at 0.2p.

MacSharry to join board at Smurfit

By Matthew Bond

RAY MacSharry, the controversial commissioner for agriculture at the European Commission in Brussels, is to become a director of Jefferson Smurfit Group, the Irish paper and packaging group.

Mr MacSharry, best known, but not always admired, for his efforts at reforming the common agricultural policy, will take up his appointment early next year — after he has retired both from

the European Commission and from active politics.

Michael Smurfit, chairman, said Mr MacSharry would bring with him "significant experience of developments in Brussels" and particular knowledge of planned legislation affecting environmental and recycling matters. Also joining the Smurfit board next year is Martin Rafferty, the Irish businessman who is currently chairman of United Drug, Readyvit, Ulster Investment Bank and the Industrial Development Authority.

The board appointments were announced as Smurfit announced interim pre-tax profits for the half year to end-July had fallen almost 20 per cent to Ir£60.3 million (£62 million). An interim dividend of Ir£.2306p (Ir£.101p) is being paid and the company has said that in the absence of unforeseen circumstances it will pay a full dividend of Ir£.74p (Ir£.3.53p).



MacSharry: retiring

Tempos, page 20

Mosaic cancels final dividend

By Colin Campbell

MOSAIC Investments, the mini conglomerate where Greg Hutchings, the chief executive of Tomkins, stepped in as non-executive chairman in July, asked for a temporary suspension of its shares which last traded at 60p.

Mosaic said because of the need to preserve cash, it was reversing its July decision and now will not pay a final dividend of 5.5p a share for the year to end-April.

Mosaic also said it will not be redeeming 2.99 million preference shares that had been due for redemption on September 28, and added that current trading — though profitable — continued to be difficult.

The group's 1992 annual meeting is being held tomorrow, but the resolution to declare a 5.5p dividend "will not be put to shareholders at the annual meeting".

Mosaic said it was completing negotiations with its bankers concerning the annual review of its bank facilities,

and that the group was in the middle of its half-yearly budget review.

It expects the review and the negotiation of its bank facilities will be completed by the end of October.

The group had been given notice on July 29 that a preference shareholder wished to redeem 2.99 million preference shares.

But in the light of current trading, and because of the various reviews yet to be completed, the directors had decided not to redeem the preference shares and had "informed the holder accordingly".

Mosaic says it continues to trade profitably, albeit below expectations at the time of the July 27 preliminary profits announcement when it disclosed that 1992 pre-tax profits had fallen from £7.56 million to £4.24 million.

A 1992 profits setback had not been unexpected in view of the group's profit warning issued in March.

Brittan to set out terms for Du Pont deal

FROM TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

SIR Leon Brittan, the EC competition commissioner, will set out Brussels' terms today for the swap between ICI and Du Pont of their nylons and acrylics businesses.

A source close to Sir Leon said yesterday that details of how much control Du Pont would have over the nylon fibres factories it acquired from ICI would be "much more complicated" than had

been reported so far. Sir Leon will give a press conference in Brussels to explain the case, one of the most complicated to have come before the competition directorate in months.

The decision will be eagerly awaited in Gloucester, Pontypool, Doncaster and southern Germany, where ICI now employs about 7,000 people in its fibres business. It had been thought that the commission would allow the swap on the condition that Du Pont lent the German facilities to

rivals, leaving the British plants as one unit. The source said yesterday the final solution was more complicated, but he thought that jobs at the British sites would be safe.

Sir Leon's task force on mergers had been unhappy with the deal, under which ICI would receive £250 million cash from Du Pont as well as its acrylics business, because the American firm would be left with 35 per cent by volume of the EC nylon fibres market and 43 per cent by value.

However, Martin Bangemann, Sir Leon's colleague in charge of industry policy, has backed the deal.

With industry advisers from EC governments also leaning in its favour, the competition directorate shied from its initial reactions to the swap, which were to suggest some of the nylon plants might have to be sold. Approval would leave ICI as the world's largest supplier of acrylic and the second-biggest producer in America.

Motorists pay the price — and more — for new cars

By A Correspondent

MOTORISTS in Britain and continental Europe pay 40 per cent more for their new cars than drivers in Japan and America, according to a report from Ludvigsen Associates, the automotive analyst.

The survey also revealed that car buyers hate to haggle over the price once they are in the showroom, and that existing British car-buying arrangements, involving discounts, trade-ins and special finance deals, make a mockery of manufacturers' list prices.

The study calls instead for the introduction of American-style "sticker

prices", giving each car a non-negotiable, take-it-or-leave-it price. The report also says that unless European manufacturers can trim production costs to match Japanese and American rivals, global competition will soon begin to damage home-grown European producers. Ludvigsen estimates European manufacturers are over-manned by about 17 per cent and are overstuffed by about 150,000 people compared with starting levels needed by Japanese manufacturers.

The report says pre-tax car prices in the UK are up to 43 per cent higher than in Japan and as much as 45 per cent higher than in America. Britons pay 35 per cent more than Danes, 20

per cent more than Belgians and 11 per cent more than Germans.

The report calls for an easing of the tax burden on new car buyers. Tax accounts for an average 20 per cent of a new car's price. Ludvigsen also says that consumer watchdogs should look at wholesale prices charged by manufacturers to dealers as well as the retail price charged by dealers to consumers.

Calling for the introduction of the American system of car purchasing, the report says: "We favour the policy of some American dealerships. They post on all cars in the showroom a sticker carrying the manufacturers recommended retail price, the discount the dealer is prepared to offer and the net

transaction price. The discounted price is non-negotiable, removing the need for the same number of salesmen as are employed in a conventional outlet."

David Gent, chairman of the Retail Motor Industry, which represents 7,000 dealers, said such a system would not be welcome. He said that when questioned, motorists advocated such a scheme but when they came to buy, they then wanted a special discount no matter what anyone else paid. A spokesman for the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders said motorists preferred to negotiate their own price on a vehicle, though many within the automotive industry would prefer haggling to be phased out.

bringing of Lloyd's names' tax treatment more into line with that of incorporated competitors. Cromer roundly declared that Parliament and government shared responsibility

CAROL LEONARD

and no coincidence given the mass of pension proposals in the year since Maxwell died. But she insists bonfires are not on the agenda, adding

closure means 33 job losses, including those of partners Dairmid Glencairn-Campbell, 48, Greg Morgan, 47, and Mike Oxley, 47. Knight

NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS

NEW INTEREST RATES

FOR PERSONAL LENDING

With effect from 30th September, 1992	Interest rate % monthly	Decreased by % monthly	A.P.R. %
Midland Overdraft Rate	1.55	0.20	19.80
Orchard			
Overdraft	1.55	0.20	20.20
Reserve	1.85	0.05	24.60
Vector			
Overdraft £250-£1,000	1.55	0.20	20.20
Reserve	1.85	0.05	24.60
Meridian			
Overdraft up to £4,999	1.50	0.10	19.50
Overdraft £5,000-£9,999	1.40	0.10	18.10
Overdraft £10,000+	1.30	0.10	16.70
Home Management Account	1.80	0.10	23.80

Standard Debit Interest Rate	Interest rate % p.a.	Decreased by % p.a.	A.P.R. %
Quarterly Interest	29.90	2.30	33.00
Monthly Interest	29.90	2.30	34.30
HomeOwner Reserve	15.00	1.00	15.70
FlexiLoan	22.20	0.60	24.60

With effect from 23rd October, 1992	Interest rate % p.a.	Decreased by % p.a.	A.P.R. %
Home Loan Rate	9.95	0.75	10.40
Home Improvement Loan Rates:			
Loans sanctioned before 26.4.89	11.95	0.75	12.40
Loans sanctioned after 26.4.89	9.95	0.75	10.20
Equity Release Loan:			
First Charge	9.95	0.75	10.40
Second Charge	11.95	0.75	13.70
House Mortgage Rate	9.95	0.75	10.20
With effect from 28th October, 1992			
Save & Borrow Account	23.00	1.00	25.00

OTHER ACCOUNTS

With effect from 28th October, 1992	Net Interest % p.a.	Gross Interest % p.a.	Gross Interest (CAR) % p.a.
Save & Borrow Account	1.49	1.99	2.00
With effect from 30th September, 1992			
Clients Premium Deposit Account			
£25,000	5.17	6.89	7.00
£100,000	5.35	7.13	7.25

CREDIT AGREEMENTS WILL BE VARIED ACCORDINGLY



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TEMPOUS

Sears looks for a trimmer fit

THE doubts are fast being resolved at Sears. One week after unloading the ill-starred menswear venture, the group has bitten the bullet at British Shoe. Nearly a third of the high street shops will be shut over the next three years, and the rest will be given a new look, a clearer identity and a trimmer cost base.

All the pain, in the shape of a £32.2 million provision, is being taken immediately, which should help settle the nerves of those who were still to be convinced of Liam Strong's credentials for the job as chief executive.

So should the dividend news. Sears' finances are probably strong enough to have supported a case for maintaining the payment again, or at least delaying a decision until the year-end, but in reducing the dividend by 35 per cent the company has given the market a clear signal as to future intentions — a message whose delivery was as important as its content.

What would really make Sears' second half would be news of an accelerated exit from housebuilding. Half the original £109 million portfolio has gone, but given the chance, Mr Strong will be out before the July 1994 deadline. Management may yet oblige.

It is too soon to tell how bright the dawn promised by Sears' new design, cheaper sourcing and improved presentation will be, but at least the years of darkness are over. The group remains cash positive, with a £75 million debt payback reducing gearing from 16.4 to 11.3 per cent.

Assuming clean pre-tax profits of £100 million for the full year, the shares are selling for maybe 18 times 1992-3 earnings, but the absence of menswear losses, the prospect of improved margins, and falling interest charges, imply a more attractive 1993-4 multi-



Margins under pressure: Michael Smurfit, the chairman of Jefferson Smurfit

ple. Once, a company in this position would have been a ripe candidate for a break-up takeover bid. Sears remains vulnerable to a predator, but with luck will be allowed to show that a few brave decisions will pave the way to recovery. Either way, Sears shares, 80p and rising last night, are well past their low point.

Jefferson Smurfit

The scale of the international recession never fails to surprise, as yesterday's 11 per cent fall in the value of Jefferson Smurfit shares testifies.

Not that a fall in profits should have been unexpected for a company whose products are paper and packaging. But what is difficult to anticipate

with any accuracy is the precise behaviour of margins. We know they are under pressure. But how much pressure, and how much does that vary from country to country? For a truly international company such as Smurfit, whose chairman is Michael Smurfit, with half-year sales of £165.4 million a small shift can have an enormous impact on the bottom line. So it has proved.

While turnover in the six months to end-July rose 7 per cent, operating margins slumped from 11.9 per cent to 9.1 per cent. With interest receivable falling faster than related losses, the result was a near 20 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £160.3 million (£62.74 million).

The particular pressure on margins in America — where operating losses at JSC/CCA continue — and in Europe has

temporarily left Smurfit looking a curious beast, with a somewhat improbable 53 per cent of operating profits earned in Latin America. However, given the convergence between first world and Third World monetary policy of late, that is not as worrying as it would have been a few years ago.

The good news for Smurfit is that with net cash of £122.3 million in the balance sheet, a period of general price deflation should not push it too far off course, a fact the company has reminded shareholders of by increasing the interim dividend from £1.101p to £1.2306p and all but promising an increased total payout of £1.74p, a 5.7 per cent increase over last year's £1.6357p.

Any sustained price rises are likely to come too late for the

second half, suggesting that full-year profits could be about £140 million. At 228p, the shares look reasonable value on a price earnings ratio of just over 11.

T&S Stores

KEVIN Threlfall, chairman of T&S Stores, the confectioner, tobaccoist and newsagent, gave up smoking this year. In some way he will have contributed to T&S's lower results for the 27 weeks to June 27.

In a cigarette market weakened by the 1992 budget and fewer shoppers because of the recession, pre-tax profits, clean of property profits, eased from £5.46 million to £5.32 million. But the dividend goes up from 2.25p to 2.4p a share.

At the expense of margins, T&S fought for and held on to market share, and on a like-for-like basis, convenience stores under the Dillons flag more than made up for weaker tobacco operations and softer newsagents' business. T&S still makes money out of its 85 sub-post offices, and the new centralised warehousing arrangements and tougher stock controls have done wonders for costs.

T&S's balance sheet has improved and the group now sits with £5 million of cash, and the benefits of a reduced headcount and greater efficiencies will make their impact in the second half.

An acquisition would help, though there is still scope in difficult markets for further productivity improvements, but it will need a real buck in consumer confidence, which might follow if the recent pattern of lower interest rates holds, before profits make a decided headway. Year-end profits about £12.5 million (£12.9 million, ex property profits) put the shares at 181p, down 5p, on 12.5 times prospective earnings. Hold.

Late rally lifts shares out of the doldrums

A LATE rally helped shares in reverse early losses and end the day in positive territory. An early bout of profit-taking, as short-term prospects of further interest rate cuts began to diminish, and further downgradings saw the FT-SE 100 index nursing a 28.5-point deficit at one stage. But this was more than reversed as a few buyers emerged at lower levels, and by reports that Goldman Sachs, the American securities house, had been an aggressive buyer of the futures in the afternoon.

The FT-SE 100 index closed up 5.5 to 2,565.5. The narrower FT index of 30 shares rose 3.5 to 1,876.6. Volume reached only 533.8 million shares.

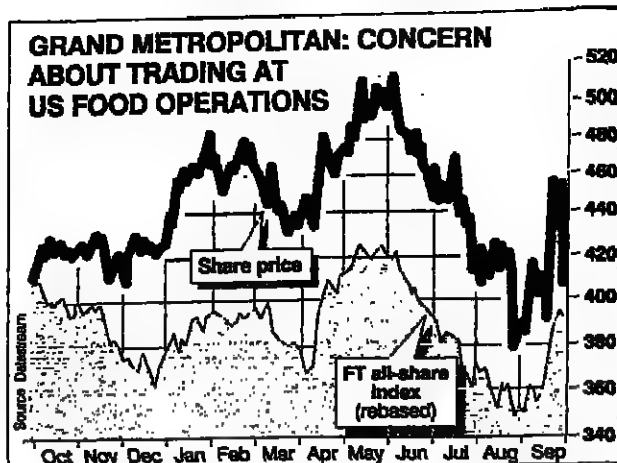
ICI, hit by a profits downgrade from Hoare Govett on Monday, fell 16p to £11.45, after £11.19, for a two-day loss of 79p. Overshadowed by ICI, Courtaulds lost 10p to 488p.

Elsewhere, most drug stocks perked up. Among the gainers, SmithKline Beecham 'A' added 19p to 492p, Wellcome 11p to 420p and Glaxo improved 18p to 764p in response to news that the pharmaceutical group had received approval for Imigran, the migraine treatment, to be used in France.

Grand Metropolitan, downgraded by BZW on Monday, shed another 9p to 413p, giving a two-day deficit of 35p, as Nikko, the Japanese securities house, trimmed its profit numbers.

There was also talk of switching out of Grand Metropolitan and into Allied-Lyons, up 18p to 613p, and Scottish & Newcastle, 16p stronger at 441p.

Kwik Save Group lost 12p to 672p, after a block of 1.5 million shares was crossed as an agency trade at 660p. Dealers and analysts said it appeared the matched deal was done by Cazenove & Co, although the broker declined to comment. Turnover was 3.7 million shares. Sears added to the gloom in



the retail sector after the Selfridges to footwear retailing group said it can see no end to the recession as it unveiled interim losses and a reduced dividend. Sears' tale of woe followed Monday's reports, said to have come from Geoffrey Mulcahy, the Kingfisher chairman, about the possibility of higher retail prices in the wake of sterling's devaluation. Despite the cau-

tion, Sears rose 8p to 80p as the market signalled its approval of the group's decision to cut the interim dividend following restructuring moves. Elsewhere Argos lost 3p to 245p, Laura Ashley 2p to 58p, Dixons 5p to 220p, Kingfisher 6p to 509p, Next 2p to 97p, WH Smith 'A' 2p to 447p, Storehouse 5p to 149p and The Rack 3p to 46p.

After their upsurge over the last couple of weeks, dollar earners and building and

Hepworth dived 40p to 243p after James Capel cut its forecast for the current year by £10 million to £44 million (after £8 million of exceptional redundancy costs). Capel's downgrading reflects higher than feared redundancy costs and the expectation that the United Kingdom building products division will slip below previous estimates in difficult trading conditions.

The meltdown continued at Clarke Foods, the ice cream maker that owns Lyons Maid, with the USM-quoted shares down a further 3p to 10p, after 8p. Earlier this month, the company cancelled its interim dividend and entered talks with its bankers. The shares traded at a high of 168p this year.

Boosey & Hawkes lost 95p to 865p after the company's interim statement warned of the risk of a further market setback in the second half-year, while Jefferson Smurfit took a knock after a 20 per cent fall in interim earnings and concern that the recession would continue to hit profits in the second half. Shares in Watts Blake Bearer, the ball and china clay producer, advanced 23p to 325p.

PHILIP PANGALOS

US seeks Gatt ruling on exports

FROM REUTERS
IN GUINEA

RUFUS Yerxa, the American trade ambassador, said he would request Gatt arbitration to set an amount that the European Community should pay its trade partners to compensate for lost oilseed exports.

Mr Yerxa, speaking before a closed meeting of the ruling General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade council, said such an arbitration body should make a "binding decision" in 30 days. "We consider this to be an urgent request. This is a crisis for the Gatt," he said. But Mr Yerxa declined to say whether Washington would take retaliatory, unilateral action if the EC blocked establishment of a panel by Gatt.

America estimates EC subsidies to European farmers cost American and other foreign exporters about \$2 billion annually. Washington has threatened to slap punitive duties on \$1 billion of EC food and drink imports. In bilateral talks with its trading partners, the EC has offered \$400 million compensation for damage on oilseeds.

Liffe seeks more success in the futures

After ten years, London's options exchange prepares to scale even greater heights

THE successful London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange (Liffe) celebrates its tenth anniversary today, and hopes are high for continued expansion in the next decade.

Michael Jenkins, chief executive, said: "There's still a large untapped market out there and so over the next ten years I would expect to see much greater use and acceptance of futures."

Analysts believe the continued success of Liffe is essential if London is to maintain its position as European financial capital.

A spokesman for the Bank of England said: "The range of contracts offered by Liffe has made a significant contribution to London as a financial centre."

If Liffe is to remain Europe's largest futures exchange and the world's third largest behind Chicago, it will need to educate new investors about the benefits of holding futures and options to hedge against risk. As well as devoting resources to education, Liffe will also have to monitor closely the constantly evolving financial markets and introduce fresh derivative products when needed.

Stephen Hamrah, chief economist at IBI International, said: "It is essential for its future that Liffe remains flexible to what are likely to be rapidly changing market circumstances."

When Liffe opened on September 30, 1982, it offered just two futures contracts, but as demand expanded so products were added to meet client de-

mands. Mr Jenkins said: "We may find the techniques of futures trading being extended to other areas of business such as insurance and property."

However, Tony La Roche, managing director of Cater Allen Futures, cautioned: "The success of Liffe's contracts is that they appeal to a wide range of people. If they are too sophisticated then there may be a drop in popularity."

There are also fears that a further dramatic rise in the number of new products may cause liquidity to dry up in existing contracts as speculators and hedgers trade derivatives to see if they more closely match their needs.

Other exchanges have been set up in Europe in recent years, and any complacency on the part of Liffe would provide rivals with the opportunity to attract business away from London.

To date, the rivalry from other European exchanges has been welcomed by many Liffe participants as a positive influence. They say it has

speeded up the introduction of new contracts and increased investor awareness throughout Europe.

Mr Jenkins said: "We have always welcomed new exchanges in Europe as this has increased the size of the total cake."

With rising volatility in European financial markets in the past few months, the demand for financial futures as a means of hedging risk has grown to the point where Liffe has announced record daily and monthly volumes over the summer.

On September 16, when sterling was suspended from the European exchange-rate mechanism, Liffe traded an estimated 850,000 futures and options contracts, worth about £243 billion.

Liffe is hoping it can attract some of the large European companies who use tailored over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives offered by banks to hedge their exposure rather than the more standardised contracts available on futures markets.

Mr Jenkins said: "The bigger companies may find it is more economical to hedge through an exchange rather than OTC in the coming years."



Jenkins: untapped market

Blue chips retreat in early trading

New York — Blue chips suffered losses in early trading as investors unwound positions taken late on Monday when the Dow Jones industrial average rallied by about 26 points. The Dow fell to 3,263.26 — down 13 points — after slipping to 3,259 at yesterday's opening. Analysts said that weakness in the dollar and bonds, plus declines in European equity markets, put pressure on shares. In addition, investors were hesitant about taking on positions before the September employment report, due on Friday.

□ Tokyo — Shares continued falling for a third consecutive day and closed weaker, though above their day's lows. The Nikkei Index dropped 224.52 points to 17,748.09. Turnover was about 240 million shares (209 million on Monday).

Sept 29	Sept 28	Sept 27	Sept 26	Sept 25	Sept 24	Sept 23	Sept 22	Sept 21	Sept 20	Sept 19	Sept 18	Sept 17	Sept 16	Sept 15	Sept 14	Sept 13	Sept 12	Sept 11	Sept 10	Sept 9	Sept 8	Sept 7	Sept 6	Sept 5	Sept 4	Sept 3	Sept 2	Sept 1	Aug 31	Aug 30	Aug 29	Aug 28	Aug 27	Aug 26	Aug 25	Aug 24	Aug 23	Aug 22	Aug 21	Aug 20	Aug 19	Aug 18	Aug 17	Aug 16	Aug 15	Aug 14	Aug 13	Aug 12	Aug 11	Aug 10	Aug 9	Aug 8	Aug 7	Aug 6	Aug 5	Aug 4	Aug 3	Aug 2	Aug 1	July 31	July 30	July 29	July 28	July 27	July 26	July 25	July 24	July 23	July 22	July 21	July 20	July 19	July 18	July 17	July 16	July 15	July 14	July 13	July 12	July 11	July 10	July 9	July 8	July 7	July 6	July 5	July 4	July 3	July 2	July 1	June 30	June 29	June 28	June 27	June 26	June 25	June 24	June 23	June 22	June 21	June 20	June 19	June 18	June 17	June 16	June 15	June 14	June 13	June 12	June 11	June 10	June 9	June 8	June 7	June 6	June 5	June 4	June 3	June 2	June 1	May 31	May 30	May 29	May 28	May 27	May 26	May 25	May 24	May 23	May 22	May 21	May 20	May 19	May 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Stop Whitehall's power cartel

What Sir Leon Britan, the EC competition supremo, will make of the news that the regional electricity companies are negotiating power contracts en masse is hard to say. But astonishment is bound to be part of his reaction whatever he makes of the legal position. The government has already come under fire for its handling of the power privatisation. Of all the state sales so far, this has looked like the worst in a series of missed opportunities, bringing in to the privatised structures far less competition than is needed now or in the future. In hot pursuit of yet another ill considered privatisation, this time of the coal industry, the government is now tacitly waiving its requirements that the regional electricity companies (RECs) compete with each other. This waiver appears to have been given as a matter of pure political convenience in order to get talks between the generators and the distribution companies under way again. They have stalled over the price and the quantity of coal-fired power the distributors will be expected to take under the arrangements which the government hopes will be agreed between British Coal and the generators.

In order to achieve what Cecil Parkinson once called the ultimate privatisation, the Government has been hoping to jury rig a deal whereby the generators flatter British Coal profits for a few years by taking more coal than they need at higher prices than they could obtain elsewhere. But first, the generators need to agree the offtake by the RECs. Observers of this setup may see little that resembles a free market negotiating process. This is surely a return to the public sector horse trading which characterised the bad old days in the power industry. It is a suspension of competition which must be subject to the scrutiny and approval of both the Office of Fair Trading and Sir Leon's competition directorate in Brussels. If allowed, the process will damage the consumer by fixing inflated coal price contracts, inflated prices by the generators and inflated prices by the RECs. Wherein lies the public interest?

Trouble triple forte

Rocco Forte faces a tough day tomorrow when he unveils interim figures for a tough trading year. The markets expect the figures to be appalling. Rivals in a business not especially well known for its comradely support, have been writing off Rocco as an effective chief executive and there have been widespread whispers of a boardroom shakeup to bring in new attitudes and fresh ideas. Forte group shares have been performing like the proverbial lead balloon having lost almost half their value since June. There is little that can be done to pacify Forte's unhappy shareholders in the short run apart from holding the dividend. Even this is by no means certain. So can the dividend be maintained?

Without binding itself firmly, the company has given the impression that it is willing to tolerate an uncovered payment to shareholders at both the halfway and the final stage. But the failure to sell Gardner Merchant is seen as a loss of useful cash at a time when interest cover is shrinking to uncomfortably low levels. In the past few days there have been market suggestions that a new broom will be brought in with the free hand to cut the dividend, clean out the group's dusty cupboards and set out on a new tack from a low profits base.

That would certainly divert attention from the cruel reality of the numbers. County NatWest expects interim profits to be about £29 million, a fall of 31 per cent while expected earnings per share may be almost 50 per cent down at 1.9p. The recession has been tough. But Forte's response or the lack of it has now to be justified.

Colin Narbrough reports on the 'secret deal' to fast forward the pace of European monetary union

The magazine *Der Spiegel*, unquestionably Germany's most investigative weekly, has an impressive record for setting the news agenda in Bonn each Monday. This week it left no doubt that issue-of-the-week was a secret deal on a Franco-German monetary union, whatever the rest of the Community decides.

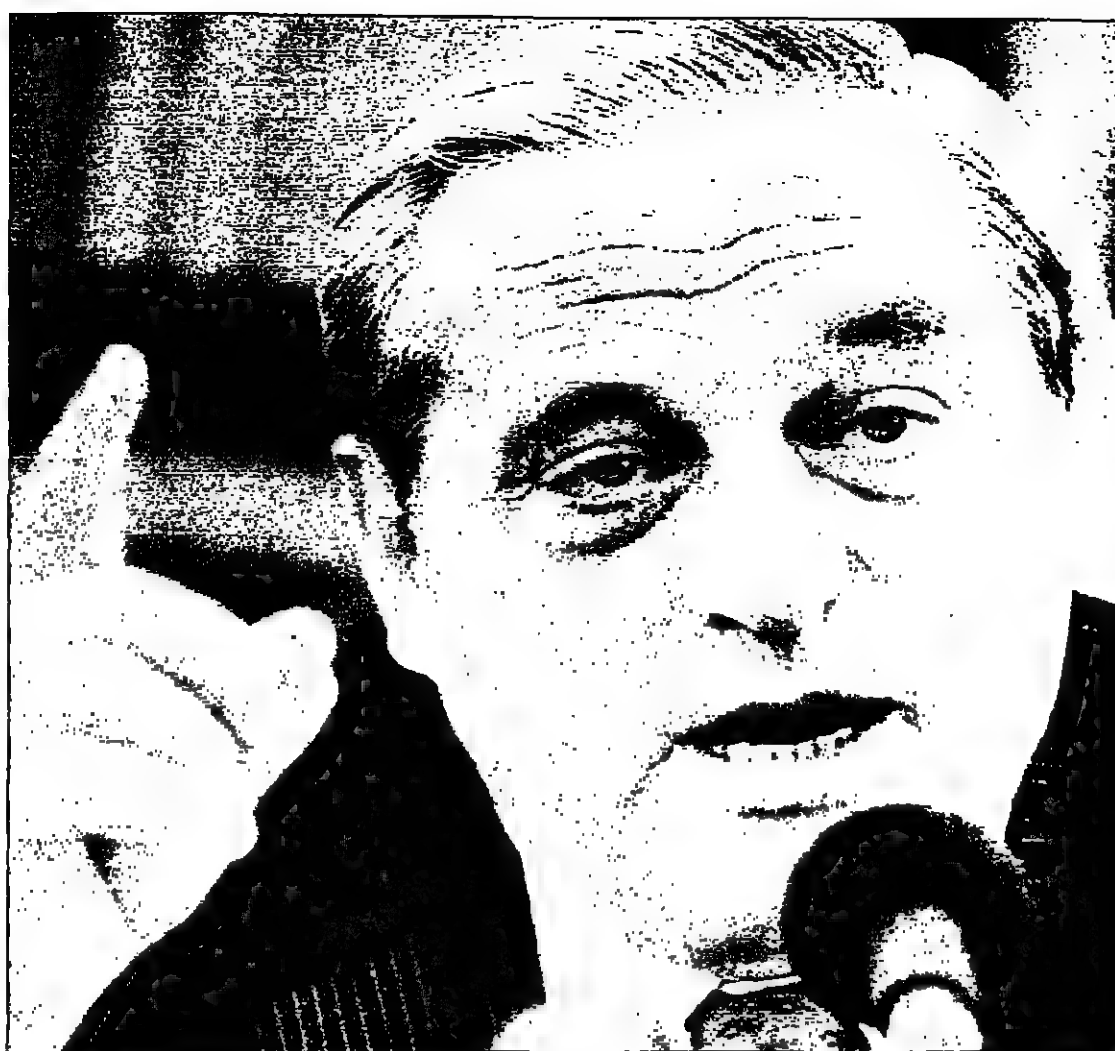
The very thought was, of course, officially rubbished in the community issued by Community economic and finance ministers in Brussels on Monday evening. Yet, as the recent weeks of turmoil in the currency markets have demonstrated all too clearly, formal denials concerning monetary policy can quickly be overtaken by real events.

Having witnessed the most outrageous volte-faces over the defence of agreed parities in the exchange-rate system, not least Britain's withdrawal and devaluation of the pound, the foreign exchange markets, as well as the general public, are right to treat officially stated objectives with extreme caution.

What makes the report in *Der Spiegel* more credible than ministerial assurances is that a fast-track route to economic and monetary union (Emu) fits increasingly well with the markets' view of the true options. Furthermore, Britain's opt-out from the ERM and any European monetary "A team" a fortnight ago, and similar action by Italy, have provided an important opportunity for the Bonn-Paris axis to try to ensure that the immense political capital they have invested in Emu bears fruit sooner rather than later.

According to the magazine, Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, and Francois Mitterrand, the French president, agreed at their *Mit-d-ete* in Paris last week, to go ahead with a common currency, as envisaged in the Maastricht treaty, but without their Community partners, if doubts about a wider monetary union persisted. To be acceptable to the Bundesbank, the currency would have to have all the attributes of the mark, but would be issued separately as national units, but at a 1:1 parity, rather like Scottish pound notes. The contingency plan includes the creation of a Franco-German central bank, to be based in Frankfurt, home of the Bundesbank, current ringmaster of European monetary policy.

This would provide reassuring continuity for German sceptics about the merits of swapping the familiar safety of the mark for the uncertainty of a common currency system. The trade-off would be that the independent bank, responsible for setting interest rates, would be headed by a Frenchman. The institution would be open to others to join, but could function as a purely Franco-



Ghost of Christmas past: Karl Otto Pöhl, former Bundesbank president, who is calling for Maastricht to be axed

German body. A working name for a Franco-German common currency, the *Franken*, is even in circulation.

From our offshore island, it is hard to appreciate the depth of the Franco-German partnership so deliberately fostered since world war two. Herr Kohl, devotedly committed to a unified Germany embedded in a European framework, has put his whole political weight behind progress on Emu. And President Mitterrand, like his predecessors, cannot envisage a European future not built on solid Franco-German foundations.

All this loose talk from our European partners about an Emu of multiple speeds could be dismissed as part of a current exercise, headed by Germany and France, to try to prevent Britain and Denmark from delaying ratification of the Maastricht treaty. But ratification by two countries that have political difficulties with the accord is hardly a real obstacle to Germany and France, and most probably the Benelux countries, from pushing ahead with a mini-Emu while others work out their domestic problems. After all, the provisions of the treaty imply a multi-speed system, as economic convergence rules have to be fulfilled as a condition of entry to the final stage.

The most likely explanation for the German and French insistence on completing the ratification process is a desire to have the legal springboard in place from which the "A team" economies could launch out into an

early form of monetary union. This would adhere to the treaty terms, but would be on a voluntary basis. The merit of such a scheme would be speed. The participants would be able to move to Stage 2 of Emu next year, instead of waiting until January 1, 1994, as foreseen in the treaty. This would allow the mini-Emu group to fast-forward the timetable by moving to Stage 2 as Stage 1, the freeing of capital controls and the integration of financial markets under the single market programme, takes full effect. The transitional European Monetary Institute (EMI) foreseen for Stage 2 also provides an ideal model for any voluntary arrangement. The EMI would plan, monitor and advise participant economies, while leaving the national authorities responsible for executing monetary, currency and fiscal policies.

The key role of the EMI, to be replaced by European central bank in Stage 3, is to oversee the transitional phase and enhance co-ordination between national institutions.

During Stage 2, countries that do not afford their central banks independence, will be obliged to initiate the appropriate legislation to allow their central banks to become as independent of national governments as other Community institutions. While the British government is in the mood at present to grant the Bank of England its

freedom, the Banque de France, could quickly be given its head if the Franco-German plan is activated. Importantly, at a time when domestic concerns about sovereignty still need assuaging, an EMI-style arrangement would offer retained national control, albeit against a background of ever-closer alignment of policy.

It has long been the case that the Bundesbank has set monetary policy for most of western Europe, even in countries outside the confines of the ERM. For France, and other countries, which have, to the time being, withstood the market gyrations that forced Britain to quit the parity grid, the determined support of the Bundesbank and the Bonn government have been decisive. But the exercise was costly. Not only has France virtually exhausted its currency reserves, but the massive support of the Bundesbank has given an unwelcome boost to Germany's disturbing money supply growth.

Ironically, it was plans for monetary union that contributed towards the deregulation of the capital markets and encouraged globally operating investors and speculators to test the fault lines of the ERM. Tension was ever latent. The Danish No vote to Maastricht in June, and wafer-thin Yes majority in France this month, simply focused the currency market attention. The transatlantic policy rift, in no way narrowed by the latest G7 deliberations, leaves a yawning interest rate gap between Germany

and America capable of regenerating pressures in the ERM.

Against this background, both Germany and France have a clear interest in ensuring that their central banks do not have to do bloody battle with the currency markets again. The call from Nicholas Brady, the American treasury secretary, for a serious analysis of world capital flows apply highlighted the concern among central bankers that the daily \$1,000 billion of currency transactions allows the market to overwhelm the authorities' defences with relative ease. If intervention no longer works, alternatives must be found. The currency market calm of the past few days could soon give way to turbulence.

Word that the French and the Germans are thinking of closing monetary ranks in glorious apertures prompted cries from the "hard-core" Benelux governments, the Irish and the Danes about wanting to stay in the van of monetary integration. It has long been assumed that the Benelux currencies, clamped even closer to the mark than their official 2.25 per cent fluctuation bands require, would take part in any fast move to Emu. Denmark was a natural candidate too, until its referendum.

Rather like the ghost of Christmas past, Karl Otto Pöhl, former president of the Bundesbank, has reappeared on the monetary scene to add a timely pennyworth. After his failure to persuade Herr Kohl of the dangers (now so evident) of German monetary union, Herr Pöhl is best on preventing Maastricht from weakening further damage on monetary policy in Europe. He wants the treaty dropped and replaced by a more limited agreement on a new European central bank, to go ahead without the complications of political union.

Could it be that Herr Pöhl has inspired the latest thinking on a Franco-German push? He, too, wants membership of the European central bank limited at first to France and Germany. The Benelux countries and Denmark could then sign up, followed by anybody else capable of subordinating themselves to the disciplines.

German central bankers have never liked the idea of a drawn-out transition period between German monetary order and its European successor. An immediate jump to the replacement system was always seen as essential. With market forces starting to call the shots, a fast-track route to monetary union is winning friends in Germany.

For all the ignominy of reversing out of the ERM, and having to abandon his "heart of Europe" policy, John Major must be full of gratitude to the market forces that delivered the shake-out of the ERM, that politicians were long unable to achieve. At his meeting in Paris today with M. Mitterrand, he should also give his blessing to the idea of a Franco-German central bank. That, after all, would give him the time he might need to rediscuss British economic policy and put the country back on track, without having to act as a road block to European monetary union.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Short time looms at Lumsden

LESS than a month after City broker Walker Crisp put its staff on a four-day week — rather than make them redundant — another broker may follow suit. Manchester's Henry Cooke Lumsden, with offices in London, Leeds and Llandudno, which employs 200 people, has given a warning that unless trading improves, up to half of them could, from December 1, be working a four-and-a-half day week with a 10 per cent pay cut. "It's a reflection of the economy and the recession," says David Adams, chief executive. "We have discussed it with our staff and they would rather have jobs, with a shorter week, than no jobs. Stockbroking is a volatile business and we would rather keep good people than let them go and then try to get them back when things improve."

Maxwell Day

GUY Fawkes Day on November 5 may have the longer pedigree but November 4 could also see some effigies burning this year. That was the last day Robert Maxwell was seen in public in 1991 and the Institute of Directors, for one, is marking the anniversary with a conference dedicated to wait for it company pension schemes. Andrea Leary, an IOD spokeswoman, says the timing is "good publicity" and no coincidence given the mass of pension proposals in the year since Maxwell died. But she insists bonfires are not on the agenda, adding



"Things are serious — the receivers have called in the receivers."

that the IOD's view is that the government "should not go overboard" on new pensions legislation. Puns like that can give an institute a bad name.

GC pulls the plug

JULIAN Knight's close-knit team at Gilbert Elliott, the broker, was yesterday pondering its future after its parent company, Austrian bank Giro-Credit — the old Girozentrale — announced its withdrawal from UK securities. GC bought the broker in 1985 but reveals it has lost £10 million in two years. "We had hoped for a management buyout but the numbers don't add up," says Knight, 47, and with the firm for 21 years. "We are a low-cost firm, we don't pay ourselves huge salaries, but we couldn't promise GC when the turnaround would be." The closure means 33 job losses, including those of partners Dairmid Glencairn-Campbell, 48, Greg Morgan, 47, and Mike Oxley, 47. Knight

says the pay-off has "not been as generous as we'd hoped" and all four are looking for jobs. "There are school fees to think about and, at 47, I'm far too young to retire," says Knight, who has two daughters at Wycombe Abbey, and a son at Ludgrove, the Berkshire prep school attended by Princes William and Harry.

Women on top

WITH Stella Rimington head of MI5, it seems that no intelligence post is now safe from the threat of female infiltration. The industry's latest recruit is Shane Russell, 37, who has just joined Kroll, the investigative consultant. Kroll is best known for its due diligence work on takeovers — it was hired by Argyl during the Distillers/Guinness battle — but Russell will specialise in product tampering cases. Petite and blonde, and a law lecturer at Nottingham Polytechnic, she does not fit the image of investigative sleuth. She will nevertheless find herself working alongside two other senior women at Kroll — Helen Kidder, once a Los Angeles police lieutenant, who handles crisis response, and Amy Lashinsky, an associate managing director who set up the firm's research department. Patrick Grayson, ex-Irish Guards, and Kroll's London managing director, thinks sexism against women is now being reversed. "If it's sexist to say it's a pleasure to work with attractive and intelligent women, then I'm an ardent sexist," he says.

CAROL LEONARD

BUSINESS LETTERS

Parcelforce aims to help small firms

From Mr Malcolm Kitchener Sir, Graham Johnson (Business Letters, 16 September) cites his problems with Parcelforce's Cash on Delivery service for parcels as an example of how large concerns make life difficult for the small businessman.

Parcelforce does not have a monopoly on COD — or any other aspect of a parcels delivery service — as Mr Johnson alleges. COD is simply one example of how we seek to meet the needs of smaller businesses by providing a facility that most of our competitors do not offer.

Having said that, it is true that there have been operating problems with COD this year. Mr Johnson will be pleased to learn that we are updating our systems and plan to introduce new equipment and proce-

dures later this year that will shorten the waiting time for payments.

On a more constructive note, as you reported in Briefings on 18 September, Parcelforce is currently opening its range of guaranteed services, previously available only on contract, to occasional users, and particularly to the small business sector.

Far from seeking to make life difficult we aim to be at the forefront in pioneering new services for this vital part of the business community.

Yours faithfully, MALCOLM KITCHENER Managing Director, Parcelforce, Headquarters, Solaris Court, Davy Avenue, Knowlhill, Milton Keynes.

Broker-owners should help pay names' losses

From Mr Alan Smallbone Sir, Mr Mellersh (Business Letters, September 24) complains that all requests for help to ruined names are, in practice, demands for other names to find the money.

In fact there is a very obvious alternative source: the big Lloyd's broking companies and the incorporated, often publicly quoted, underwriting agencies.

The Cromer report of 1969 pointed out that Lloyd's was peculiarly ill-adapted to the underwriting of catastrophe risks — the very classes which are at the root of the current crisis — unless certain urgent reforms were undertaken. Since these involved the bringing of Lloyd's names' tax treatment more into line with that of incorporated competitors, Cromer roundly declared that Parliament and government shared responsibility

with Lloyd's. The Lloyd's Act of 1982, however, failed entirely to grapple with this obvious need.

Because proper reserves could only be made from profits, and because anything which reduced the bases on which agencies, many of them broker-owned, took profit commissions, no attempt was made to implement Lord Cromer's reforms in this area. Now names are suffering from inadequacies of legislation, inadequacies designed to favour the owners, notably broker-owners, of underwriting agencies.

That is why they have a moral obligation to pay pound for pound with the £500 million levy demanded from names. Yours faithfully, ALAN SMALLBONE, 30 Temple Fortune Lane, NW11.

THE TIMES

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160	108	Bradford	138	-2	44	43	12
56	13	Brodero	15	-1	1
275	110	Br Land	165	-3	63	58	13

125	44	Burford	46	1	0.9	2.8	24
126	45	Cap & Reginald	94		1.0	1.9	61
200	75	Carroll Prep	130		2.4	2.4	60
417	103	Chasterville	185		19.8	13.7	21
40	9	City Star Exts	7	= 5	1.4		
80	6	Clark Nicholas	18		6.3		1
32	4	Cleveland	14				
880	785	Danjan	818		25.0	4.1	13
4		Dares Entahed	14				
76	30	Deborahann Teno	43	= 2	2.5	7.8	14

98	6	Bassett Glen	120	...	3.7	...	3
100	100	Foxes of Leeds	130	...	4.1	4.6	12
31	19	Pine Oaks	19	...	...	...	...
55	32	Pietrich King	40	...	1.0	3.1	26
528	198	Progressive	236	- 4	13.8	7.8	23
125	51	Crabtree	63	...	5.3	11.1	12
182	94	Gr Portland	111	- 4	10.0	12.0	10
114	107	Graydon	15	...	5.3	...	...
100	63	HR Lami	107	...	...	6.7	18
48	30	Henderson Comm	30	- 1	0.6	0.5	...

50	140	100	197	3	23	13.0	0
51	140	100	197	3	23	13.0	0
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36	19	Automegala	19	...	0.1
40	42	Hemidius	78	...	2.4	4.1	30
430	385	Lambers	340	...	12.8	5.0	...

41	16	Strong & White	19	...	1.0	2.0
41	19	Strong & White	19	...	1.0	2.0
41	94	Style	94	...	2.5	3.5

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441	362	Allied Text	400	...	12.3	-1.1
77		Businesses	53			

162	2	Indian City	146	1	3	8.5	7.8	31
161	141	St. Anthony	146	1	3	8.5	7.8	31
61	30	Cherokee	146	1	3	8.5	7.8	31
61	23	Cherokee	146	1	3	8.5	7.8	31
285	186	Cherokee	146	1	3	8.5	7.8	31
222	186	Cherokee	146	1	3	8.5	7.8	31
223	160	Dawson	212	1	3	8.5	7.8	31
58	17	Diamond	212	1	3	8.5	7.8	31
7	14	Diamond	212	1	3	8.5	7.8	31
73	60	Diamond	212	1	3	8.5	7.8	31

142	84	Gastrell	124	...	8.3	
140	99	Hickling	126	...	3.4	2.6
73	38	Jarome	62	...	1.0	2.2
289	274	Lumley	394	...	...	8.3
494	308	Leeds	469	...	9.7	2.8
41	16	Lister	39	...	0.1	0.7
118	81	Lyles (S)	104	...	4.4	5.7
88	68	Parliament 'A'	69	...	2.0	3.9
87	63	Remington	71	...	3.4	6.4
71	33	SEET	43	...	...	...

40	28	Stirling	38	...	1.6	5.8	12
59	45	Stoddard	45	...	2.6	7.8	12
312	218	Tomlinson	224	...	11.5	6.8	12
54	3	West Trail	34	...	0.2	8.9	12
261	205	Yorkdale	240	...	9.7	5.4	11

TOBACCOS

440	211	Assoc. Br. Ports	289	- 0	8.0	5.7
723	531	BAA	722	+ 7	14.5	2.7

182	39	Clarkson	39	...	4.1	8.1
181	31	Dwyer Newman	23	...	8.0	18.1
149	293	Environmetal	410	-7	...	...
148	1	Environmetal	2	...	...	...
147	65	Fisher Cement	65	...	5.9	...
139	70	Grain	70	...	4.5	...
293	150	Indl Stream	143	...	...	8.6
263	22	Jacobus	20	...	...	6.1
151/2	1237	Manchester Sp	1237	...	1.9	0.5
348	159	Marche Frey	73	...	4.5	0.5

286	118	NFC	216	- 2	62	3.2	2
355	270	Ocean Group	199	- 3	14.3	9.6	1
553	310	Ocean Wilson	38	...	...	2.6	...
635	2364	P & O Ltd	302	- 7	30.5	10.6	1
150	97	P & O S	130	...	...	4.9	...
415	267	Powell Duffryn	347	...	22.6	8.7	1
117	56	Scapco	114	...	42	4.9	...
59	27	TIP Europe	34	...	...	7.1	...
87	38	TNT	42	- 1	...	...	...
619	534	Timber & Britain	548	- 14	10.9	2.6	2

448	308	Anglian Water	429	..	19.3	6.0
514	316	Northumbrian	484	..	21.5	5.5

426	323	Porto Wm	451	+ 1	19.8	5.3
435	298	Southern Trent	408	+ 1	19.3	6.3
424	301	Johns Water	408	..	19.5	6.4
1300	670	Sib Sands	1195	..	40.2	4.5
451	306	South West	426	-10	21.7	6.8
452	334	Thames Water	451	+ 9	19.2	5.7
481	337	Welsh Water	457	+ 4	21.4	6.2
531	266	Wentz Water	518	+ 8	19.5	5.0
493	336	Yorkshire W	473	+ 6	19.5	5.5

Source: Firststat
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Harvey Elliott introduces a special report on Britain's new standard-setting air-traffic control centre

Policing the congested skies

Even in the fiercest recession, it seems, nothing will stop people flying. The skies over Britain have never been as busy as they are now, after a 7 per cent increase from last year in the number of flights handled by the 1,500 air-traffic controllers who guide the aircraft along "motorways" more than five miles high, and through the complex network of approach routes to airports.

On nine days during June and July alone, the men and women sitting before their glowing, round green radar screens handled more than 11,200 movements per day — a figure which would have been unthinkable only a few years ago.

Luckily, the sharp increase in the number of flights was predicted many years ago, as the Civil Aviation Authority realised that to cope with the future demand being placed on its air-traffic controllers, a completely new control centre had to be built, equipped with the very latest radars and communications to enable them to keep pace.

After a long and detailed search for a suitable site, the authority settled on a disused brickworks at Swanwick near Fareham, Hampshire. That centre, one of the largest and most modern in the world, will be officially "topped out" by transport secretary John MacGregor today, and by 1996, this will be the working home of 800 controllers.

In place of the old round, green radar displays will be an entirely new design: flat, rectangular and displaying many colours, to give constant information about hundreds of aircraft as they cross the skies over Britain.

Once it is fully operational, the old air-traffic control centre at West Drayton will be freed to look after the aircraft landing and taking off from Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted and other airports in the South-east. The new centre is also expected to become the standard by which adjoining air-traffic control centres are judged. When it opens, attention will switch back to the rest of Europe, where, for the most part, far less is being done.

The project began in 1986, when a working party within the newly established directorate of planning analysis identified the need for such a centre by the mid 1990s. A year later, a specialist planning team was set up, with orders to press ahead with ideas for a new centre.



Keeping track: by 1996, 800 air-traffic controllers, using the latest monitoring equipment, will be based at the En Route Centre, right, near Fareham, Hampshire



West Drayton finds a new role in central control

Among the most important jobs of the new En Route Centre, when it is fully operational, will be linking up with adjoining sectors of airspace and, most important, liaising closely with the Central Control Function now being developed at West Drayton.

CCF is a key part of CAA's £750 million investment programme, and is based on a "tunnels in the sky" concept to be created as specific one-way arrival or departure routes at each of London's airports. Stage one of the new system involved moving the controllers who manage flights arriving or departing from the London terminal area into a completely new operations room. This was completed in February last year, and provides modern vertical

radar workstations equipped with the latest technology to present information to the controllers.

In a later stage of the programme, to be completed next year, the approach control radars at Gatwick, Heathrow and Stansted will also be transferred to the new operations room, and the whole system will be fully operational by December 1995.

Put simply, CCF means that aircraft currently controlled from various sites will be guided from a single room at West Drayton. This will replace the current system, under which flights arriving over

London are guided along the airways by West Drayton, until they reach the designated holding point for the destination airport, where they are handed on to airport approach control for the final part of their flights.

Air-traffic capacity should increase - perhaps by a third

Bringing the controllers together in a single operations room will streamline the procedures for managing traffic. In future

the groups of controllers will be working side by side and therefore able to liaise far more closely than at present.

Under CCF, the airspace will be organised into specified and separate "tunnels in the sky" to allow

a controller to control traffic flowing through his sector in one direction only. This simplification of the controller's task, combined with the reduction in management and liaison time, is expected to produce an increase in capacity of at least a 30 per cent. The new technology — which is far more user-friendly — will also give controllers far more information about a particular aircraft without any need to look away from the radar screen.

CCF, a much safer form of control even than today's "fail-safe" system, will remain at West Drayton, in a new controlled airspace operations room. The aircraft it handles — about half the total — will be handed over to the new En Route Centre as they climb high into the airways.

was needed, and Dr John Barrett, former engineering director of Thorn EMI, was recruited to be in overall charge.

Then the search for a site began in earnest, and when the then

transport secretary Cecil Parkinson gave formal approval for an initial £200 million investment, 70 sites were being considered. Gradually these were whittled down to a shortlist, negotiations with local authorities went on daily, and in September 1990, agreement was finally reached with Fareham Borough Council to purchase the site.

Controllers of air traffic are noted for their caution, and the prospect of moving hundreds from their old home at West Drayton concerned the authority enough to conduct a survey among the staff to see how they would react. Nine out of ten agreed about the real need for the new En Route Centre, and eight out of ten believed it should be sited away from West Drayton.

The strongest preference was for a site in the South West, with a location near Bournemouth being the favourite — perhaps because that is where many controllers were trained. Top of the list of priorities for the staff was the wish for pleasant surroundings, with good transport not far behind. Fareham seems to meet these all criteria, and it should ensure that staff morale is maintained.

Reminders of life in the 1990s

SOME time after the year 2032, when the new En Route Centre has run its allotted lifespan, the area will be bulldozed and excavated, ready for a new building to go up on the site.

The developers of the future will discover a concrete cap in the foundations, covering a deep hole, at the bottom of which there is a time capsule containing memorabilia of life in Britain in the 1990s. The capsule was put there by pupils from form 8BB of Brookfield School, near the Southampton site.

On the side is a brass plaque, which reads: "This capsule was entombed on 25 October 1991. The plaque was manufactured by students of Bishop's Stortford College in Essex, and the contents were compiled by pupils of Brookfield School, Salisbury Green, Southampton."

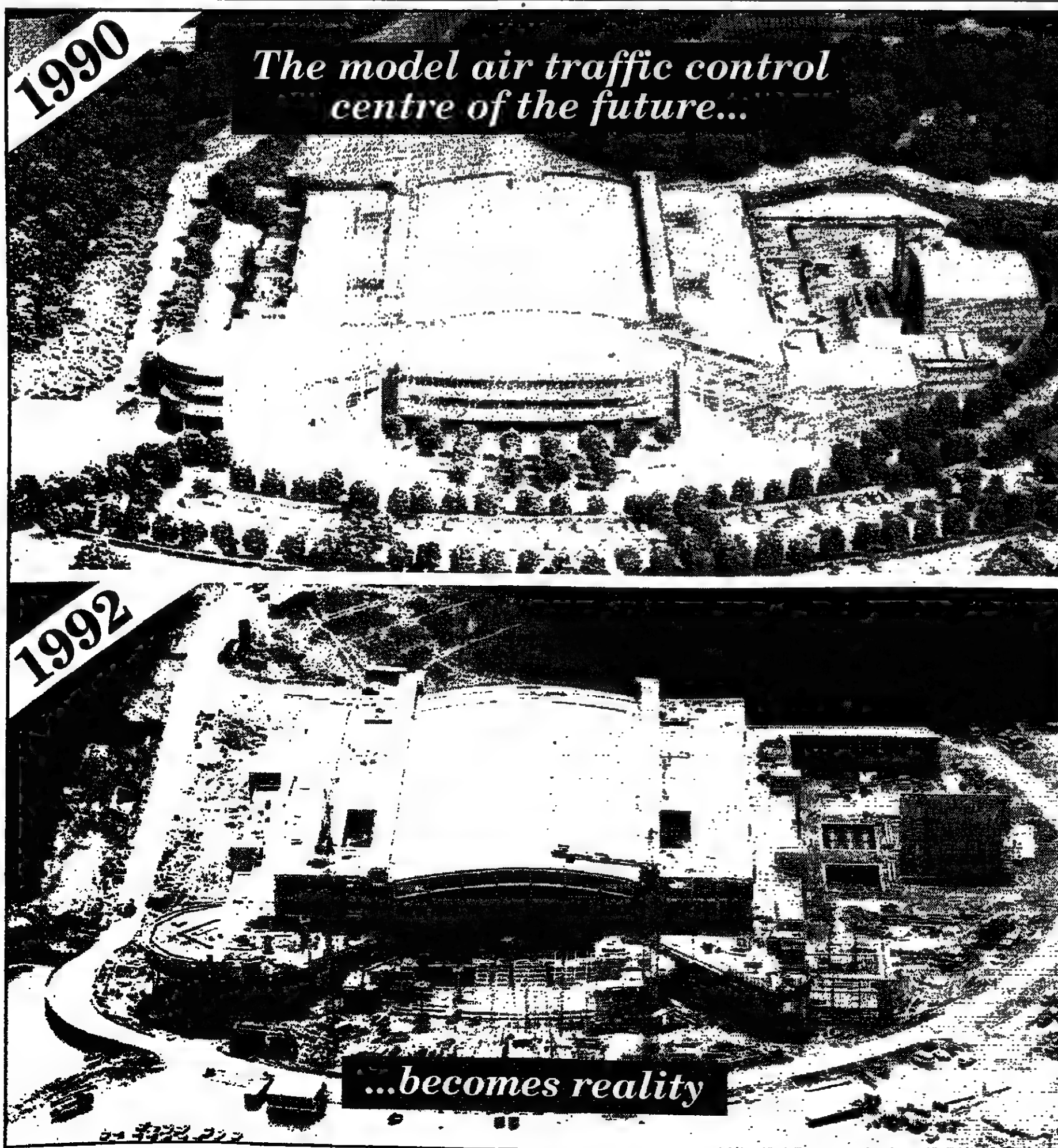
Even though they will be well into their fifties — and possibly much older — by the time the capsule is resurrected, and even though the official tree-planting and foundation-stone ceremony took place in the middle of their half-term holidays, most of the children from form 8BB were on hand as the dignitaries marked the formal start of work on the £200 million first phase of the scheme.

Time capsule will wait for 40 years to be discovered

The time capsule was delivered to the school ten days before the ceremony, and the children spent a good many hours in the classroom deciding what to bury with the capsule that would epitomise their lives.

In the end they decided to include a copy of the local newspaper, a current affairs video, a cassette of top ten hits, a Brookfield School tie, figures of cartoon characters, photographs, postage stamps and a copy of the CAA's house magazine.

The foundation stone, which was laid by Christopher Chataway, the CAA chairman, is made of Portland stone and is in the shape of a radar screen. As Mr Chataway said: "The laying of the foundation stone over the time capsule foretells a period of intense building activity."



The Rt Hon. John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Transport, will today 'top out' the CAA's new air traffic control centre building at Fareham, Hants.

Two years ago this model air traffic control centre was just that, an architect's model of the real thing. Today the building is ready to receive its operational equipment. When it becomes operational in 1996 the £350 million-plus centre will manage the main flows of air traffic over England and Wales, leading to an increase in airspace capacity of 40 per cent.

The Centre is a major element in the CAA's £750 million Investing for Growth programme to provide the air traffic control equipment, facilities and procedures to meet forecast growth well into the next century.

We've already completed an advanced en-route radar chain, provided a new ATC computer system, re-equipped 11 major airports with new radars and other facilities, and updated our network of navigation aids.

The first phase of a new system for handling air traffic over South East England has already been introduced. When it's fully operational in 1995, this will increase capacity by at least 30 per cent.

We're also working with our European colleagues to harmonise and integrate systems across Europe in an effort to produce 'seamless' air traffic control for the whole continent.

This will provide a better service than ever for air travellers.



Civil Aviation Authority, CAA House, 45-69 Kingsway, London WC2B 6TE



Safety first, second and third

Stringent design criteria and a series of rigorous tests will ensure that flight control at the En Route Centre is never interrupted

Several British companies are going to be terribly disappointed later this year when the CAA announces who has won the contract to supply the electronic and radar equipment for the En Route Centre.

In November 1991 the authority awarded contracts to two consortia for an early phase, and soon it will make a final decision on which has won. The consortia are led by IBM and Thomson-CSF respectively. The IBM consortium includes SD Scicon, Logica and Siemens Plessey Radar (the UK subsidiary of Siemens AG). The Thomson-CSF consortium includes British Aerospace/Sema, Data Sciences Limited and the Martin Marietta Corporation of the United States. Both consortia, therefore, have a substantial British content.

CAA managing director Tom Murphy says: "Both consortia have substantial recent experience in ma-

jor air-traffic control centres. They will produce two competing air-traffic control solutions, from which we will choose one to undertake development and production for the implementation phase."

The current phase is a chance for the authority to discover what modern equipment the marketplace can offer, but senior staff have insisted that because of the tight timescale, they cannot afford high risk procurement at the frontiers of technology.

Bovis Construction was appointed management contractor for the construction of the building in February last year, and is responsible for managing the construction of the 41,000 square metre building, together with building services.

In past projects, the CAA has produced the specification, purchased a system and then carried out the integration. For the new centre, it decided to hire advisers from indus-



Project director Dr John Barrett (left) meets Lord Caithness at the new site, which should ease crowding at Heathrow, top

try. Cossor Electronics was, therefore, appointed management support contractor, and it provides about half the project team's staff of more than 80.

The team operates in half a dozen separate fields including systems engineering, project management systems, the Cossor input and the air-traffic control team.

Project director John Barrett firmly believes that ultimate success will depend on the skills of the management team. "I am a great believer in a flat team structure. Fewer layers of management means communications up and down the line are greatly improved," he said. "It also helps to

ensure that messages do not get distorted. The structure is democratic and the boss is not a remote figure. It also removes status consciousness."

There are several specific problems to be dealt with. Water must not be introduced into operational areas. Because of the sensitivity of the equipment, measures have been taken to avoid water entering from above and below the building or being introduced into the area by the services. The roof will be double-skinned. All of the building is above ground level, and the design ensures that flooding cannot occur in the vicinity of the centre.

Although fire sprinklers are being installed throughout the building, those in the operational area will only be charged with water if a fire is confirmed. Similarly, electricity supplies to operational equipment are supported by uninterruptible power supplies, which can supply half an hour of power in the event of loss of both the outside electricity supply and the standby.

No single fault must be allowed to cause more than one system to fail. Great care has been taken to design out all such potential failures. Furthermore, services must be able to sustain a maintenance fault or two simultaneous failures.

Because safety is highly critical, the consequences of a major deficiency or failure must be minimised at all costs. It was decided that the best way to minimise this risk was by a comprehensive programme of prototyping, development, simulation and evaluation. The first stages of such a programme have been running since 1989 and will continue until 1996.

First a mathematical model of the proposed airspace sectors and procedures was carried out with Eurocontrol at Bretigny in France. A real-time simulation programme began at the air-traffic control evaluation unit in Bournemouth last winter.

Perhaps the most important element of all the tests is the man-machine interface and the ergonomics. In the final phase of planning, everything will be simulated and the gains in airspace capacity will be predicted by computer modelling. Tests will also be conducted to optimise relations with adjoining controllers, civilian and military.

Operational controllers are already working in workstation trials, and more will be involved once the contracts have been awarded.

Designed to last 40 years

For its new control centre, functioning 24 hours a day 365 days a year, the CAA had to produce a building with services and associated external works to last at least 40 years. Three extensive refits will be carried out during its lifetime.

Working with the CAA on the building phase of the project are the multidisciplinary Building Design Partnership (BDP), quantity surveyor Monk Dunstone Associates and management contractor Bovis Construction.

In the "fast-track" project, the work is divided into many packages, arranged in a master programme by Bovis Construction.

As the design of every package is finished, competitive tenders are evaluated, the contract is let, and work begins on site.

The lessons learnt from the new En Route Centre will have a profound effect on the way the CAA carries out its future projects," says Mick Carter, the CAA's chief works services engineer.

The entire centre is 41,000 square metres, at the focus of which are the operations room and the equipment room. With an area of 200 square metres, the operations room is more than twice the size of the one at the present London control

centre. Because of height restriction imposed, mechanical and electrical service areas are beneath the floor.

Unlike traditional operations rooms of air-traffic control teams, this one will have controlled daylight, coming in through internal courtyards, giving views of the outside world.

Wrapped around three sides of the rooms are the plantrooms, support accommodation and non-operational accommodation, including the restaurant, recreation and lecture halls, offices and the library. A significant feature of the interior is the "street", which not only creates visual links with the surrounding countryside, but also bonds the communities of operational and non-operational staff, encouraging "a sense of place and belonging". BDP says.

'Lessons learnt' from the new centre will affect future projects'

The BDP design concentrates on producing a functional building that fits in with its environment.

"The building's vocabulary of materials, textures and tones", BDP says, "has evolved through a recognition of restrained architectural statements, which are seen to be compatible with both the technology and the terrain."

Birds dictate start date

Nesting birds, not the planning team, dictated the start of work at the new En Route Centre. Fareham council gave the CAA planning permission for its air-traffic control centre on 118 acres of Hampshire countryside on condition that the environment had first priority.

The project team had to clear trees and scrub before the nesting season. "If we had missed this ecological window, the project would have been delayed for several months to enable the birds to rear their offspring," says John Barrett, the project director.

Equipment came in on a special access road so that other environmental damage was avoided, the trees were removed and the birds found other, more secure, homes.

Another problem was presented by a badger family. The council insisted on the creation of a 30-acre nature reserve adjacent to the site, gaps were made in the fence and an underground tunnel was dug under the access road to enable the badgers to use their usual routes to forage for food.

Diana Smith, the reserve's educational warden, who tempted the badgers with supplies of peanuts, says: "To our amazement, the badgers con-

arrangement is better for wildlife and visitors. Already dragonflies, insects, birds and several kinds of fish are back in abundance, and many more are expected.

The CAA has promised that the centre will produce no smoke and will not give rise to chemical or fume hazards. Road traffic will increase only marginally.

The planners of the project had to give priority to nature

tinued to trot along the same routes when the trees had been felled, even after the landscape had been flattened and scent trails had been removed. They were determined to stay."

Anything of educational value was rescued from the contractors, including a slice of a large oak tree, a woodpecker's nest and a starling's nest in a woodpecker hole. A museum is being created from several listed buildings on an adjacent site south of the M27, to recall how and why bricks were made from local clay for decades.

Fossil oysters were found, 45 million years old, still looking like their modern equivalents, with worm tubes attached.

A lake, dug in 1948 for clay extraction, had been stocked with fish but had no shallows for spawning and was of limited value to wildlife because birds had nothing to feed on and nowhere to nest. Now the water has been pumped out, exposing a vast amount of debris, including a workman's hut and an exploded mortar bomb.

Spoil from excavations was used for the floor of the deep hole in which the water had gathered. From this was produced a shallow lake of varying depth, with an island and gently sloping margins. The



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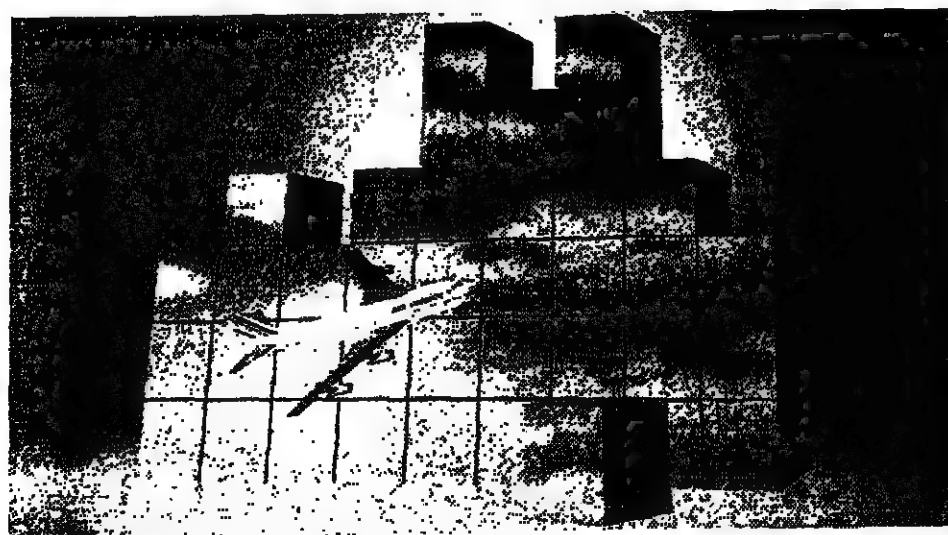
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P&O



Watching whales cavort off Newfoundland provides an enriching experience, Brian Clarke reports

Having a whale of a feeding time

IT WAS a classic, head-and-tail rise. First the dark shoulders broke the surface, then the dorsal fin came, briefly silhouetted against the radiant reflections; and then the tail, holding for a moment before sliding down out of sight. There was the characteristic turbulence in the water.

I made no move to reach for a rod, though I can claim no self-restraint. Indeed, had I had ten rods in the boat, I would not have cast. The seas off Newfoundland are no place to start an argument with a whale and the north of Baffin Island would be a dull place to finish it, even in summer.

Watching that whale — and others — move and feed a couple of weeks ago was a thrilling, even life-enhancing experience for all aboard the little craft. For the anglers among us, there was a special fascination as we watched the massive creature recreate on an unimaginable scale, the kind of behaviour a trout displays when moving and feeding near the surface.

To link the behaviour of whales with the behaviour of trout may seem a bizarre thing to do, even for an angler. Yet it is only the scale of events that is truly different.

Time after time, it was possible for the anglers on board to see, before the non-anglers, fast-moving minke whales head-and-tail through the surface at a distance. The fleeting dark appearances, the cross-hatched patterns in the low waves, attracted the eye in just the same way as the head-and-tail trout feeding on a lake. The size of the creatures matched the vastness of the sea, and from a distance the overall impression was the same.

While crossing open sea in which no whales had been sighted, it proved possible several times to spot where whales had surfaced earlier because of the large patches of calm water they had left behind. In diving down, they had produced huge, upwelling convection currents that had risen and flattened out the waves.

This flattened area of water — the "footprint" — that a diving whale leaves is precisely the same kind of cue that a trout offers to observant anglers when it is feeding below the surface, on ascending nymphs.

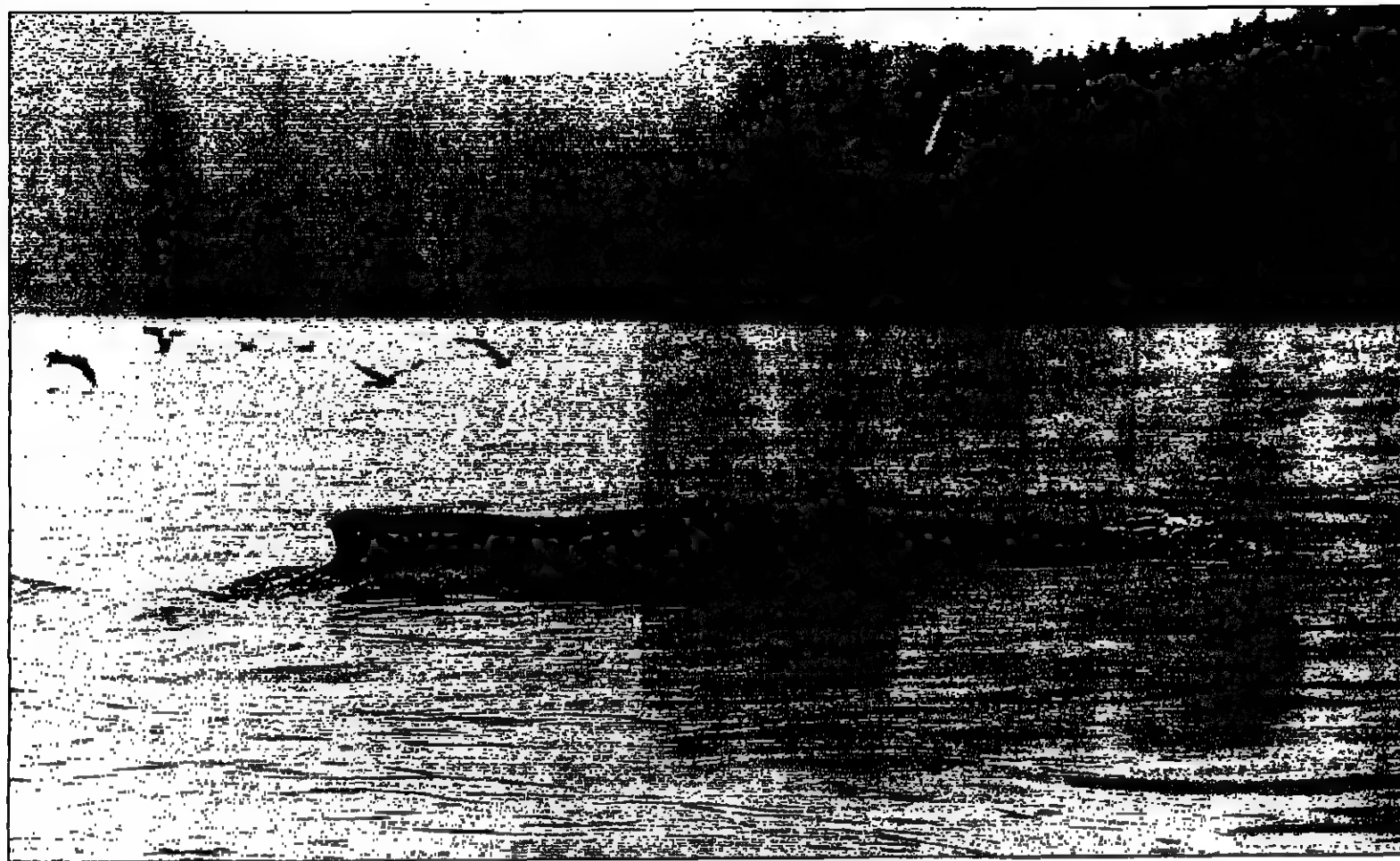
Because some nymphs move quickly or awkwardly, the trout have to move quickly to grab them. As the fish move, so they displace water, and the faster they move the more violently the water is shifted.

Where violent movement occurs near the surface, the result will often be an upwelling of water that will flatten out the ripple directly overhead. And the appearance of the resulting round, stunned area of water in the middle of an otherwise consistent ripple, is where an experienced angler will cast his fly, when the beginner has noticed nothing.

Using the same principles, it was possible, in favourable conditions, to follow the progress of some whales when they were below the surface. Such was the power of their flukes that even when many feet down, each beat sent turbulence welling upwards to the surface. A line of such turbulence showed the route the whale was taking.

In an area where whales are feeding, even when none can be seen, the next likely place for a lunge will sometimes be indicated by fish leaping from the sea in just the same way.

The gulls off Newfoundland took the parallel even further. Both trout and whales, in the violence of their feeding, stun and cripple small fish that they do not eat. And then the birds move in, circling and gliding, before diving down to pick up an easy meal. By watching the gulls in Newfoundland, we



Rippling effect: displaying the beginning of a classic head-and-tail rise, a whale goes in search of nourishment off Baffin Island

could often gain some due to the whereabouts of distant whales.

There were even parallels for the angler who hunts by sight and stalks individual trout in clear waters. Any experienced stalker knows that the last thing he should expect to see is the clear outline of a fish. What he recognises first is something that appears inconsistent or foreign in the area of water into which he is looking.

There may be a suggestion of sepias in an area of darkness that on scrutiny takes on the shape of a fish's tail. There may be a pulse of light as the sun catches the side of a turning fish, or even a pinprick of white when a trout opens its mouth to suck in a nymph. It is such hints and winks and suggestions of fish, that the stalking angler looks for.

And so it proved with the whales albeit, again, on a different scale. Many times we found we could see humpback whales below us or near us, when our non-fishing companions could see nothing.

In the north Atlantic, the huge flippers of the humpback whale are white. In the clear, clean, plankton-laden sea these flippers glow with a phosphorescent light, often revealing the position of a whale long before or after it has surfaced. Even in a low wave, we found that, provided the sun was up, a whale could be located because of the intermittent, faint semaphores sent out by its fins.

There was, it is obvious, no magic in any of this: it was simply a case of knowing the kinds of cues that swimming fish offer — and then of recognising them when produced by the whales. It was absorbing for experienced anglers; it would have been an education for beginners.

To link the behaviour of whales with the behaviour of trout may seem a bizarre thing to do, even for an angler

RUGBY LEAGUE

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

Carcassonne draw dream tie in Regal Trophy first round

THE French game could not have wished for a more triumphant entry into English competition than the visit to Wigan which Carcassonne yesterday drew in the first round of the Regal Trophy.

While their stay in the competition will almost certainly be a brief one, the prospect of France's leading side playing at Central Park on November 8 is a significant fillip to the game in their country, which struggles in the shadow of the richer rugby union code. In describing the match as a meeting between world and European champions, Claude Depaule, the Carcassonne president, overstated things, but the joyful tears from the French delegation at the draw in Salford were genuine. "This is our dream time; the best match for us," Depaule said.

For Wigan, Carcassonne is a glamour tie, if only because they provide different opposition. John Morris, the Wigan coach, does not underestimate them.

After winning the French championship last season, Carcassonne remain unbeaten in 40 games. They are not an entirely unknown quantity

to Wigan's Great Britain contingent, as they include seven French internationals.

A second French team, Catalan, have an easier task, but Rochdale Hornets, of the second division, possess a sufficiently strong pack to swiftly end Anglo-French relations in the competition for this year.

Leeds, whose only success last season was in reaching the final, will despair at the prospect of travelling to St Helens. St Helens first dismiss Huddersfield on October 27 in the preliminary round: an unwelcome burden in an over-



Monie: cautious

loaded season which they share with four other first division sides.

Should Sheffield Eagles beat Chorley they will visit Warrington, where they surprisingly won 12-10 in the league earlier this month. Castleford will not relish the trip to Oldham, the unbeaten second division leaders.

Jonathan Davies, who has a wrist injury, and Tony Myler, with a damaged shoulder, are doubtful for Widnes's Lancashire Cup quarter-final at St Helens tonight. Steve McCurrie takes over at hooker from Paul Hulme, who has a rib strain. St Helens retain the side that overwhelmed Salford on Sunday.

Leeds have signed James Lowes, a scrum-half, from Hunslet. The fee will be decided by a tribunal.

DRAW: Preliminary round: St Helens v Huddersfield; Warrington v Blackpool Gladiators; Swinton v Hull KR; Chorley Borough v Sheffield Eagles. First round: St Helens v Huddersfield; Swinton v Hull KR; Chorley Borough v Sheffield Eagles; Warrington v Blackpool Gladiators; Swinton v Hull KR; Chorley Borough v Sheffield Eagles; Warrington v Blackpool Gladiators; Swinton v Hull KR; Chorley Borough v Sheffield Eagles.

First round ties to be played on November 7 and 8.

NETBALL

By LOUISE TAYLOR

Crocker holds spot in England squad

THREE fresh faces have been included in the England squad of 12 to face New Zealand in a three-match home international series in November.

The squad, pruned from a party of 19 selected in December, includes one international debutante — Jane Crocker, of Essex Metropolitan — and relative newcomers Helen Manufo and Patricia Sweeney.

Lending experience to the squad is Kendra Lowe, the Bedfordshire wing defence and national captain. Aged 29, the Teesside-born PE teacher has recovered from the knee injury which sidelined her for a year and jeopardised her target of 100 England caps. She has 84.

Crocker, 23, a Hertfordshire-based bank clerk, has progressed through the Under-18 and Under-21 ranks as a goalkeeper or goal defence. Likewise, Manufo, 23, a student in London, plays goalkeeper or goal defence for Middlesex. She made her first international appearance against Wales in March.

Sweeney, 29, a PE teacher from Basildon, made her England debut at wing attack

against Scotland in February. The All England Netball Association is still seeking a sponsor for the series against New Zealand, which will be televised by the BBC.

The matches are at Wembley Arena on November 7, the G-Mex centre in Manchester on November 12, and Granby Halls, Leicester, on November 14.

The season begins in earnest on Saturday when the English Counties League programme resumes. Surrey begin the defence of the championship they won in April with a trip to Birmingham. After dominating the competition for several seasons, Birmingham were disappointed to finish fifth last season.

Essex Metropolitan, the runners-up in April, visit Middlesex, who were third. Bedfordshire are home to Hampshire North, while the two promoted teams, Kent and Hertfordshire, meet south of the Thames.

ENGLAND SQUAD: Lowe (Bedfordshire), Manufo (Essex Metropolitan), Sweeney (Essex Metropolitan), Crocker (Essex Metropolitan), Davies (Widnes), Myler (Widnes), Hulme (St Helens), Davies (Widnes), Myler (Widnes), Hulme (St Helens), Davies (Widnes), Myler (Widnes), Hulme (St Helens).

RACING

Fillies only evens to supplement fine Arc record

By MICHAEL SEELY

LADBROKES were yesterday prepared to offer only even money against a filly winning Sunday's Ciga Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp.

Fillies have been outstandingly successful in the world's most demanding flat race. In the past 20 years, since San San won in 1973, seven others have galloped to victory. And in 1983, All Along beat Sun Princess and Luth Enchantée in an all-disaff finish.

The bookmakers' apparently cramped odds look realistic on this occasion. The seven fillies likely to run include User Friendly, Jolypha, Magic Night and Market Booster, who is due to be supplemented tomorrow.

User Friendly delighted Clive Brittain in her final gallop at Newmarket yesterday. Partnered by her big-race jockey, George Duffield, the St Leger winner came home three lengths clear of Spartan Shareef, who runs in Saturday's Prix Dollar, and two other stable companions.

"That was just what was wanted," the trainer said. "The only thing that's been worrying me is whether I could get her there spot on. And now I'm satisfied. We'll fly her out on Saturday so that she can arrive quietly at the stables after racing."

Jolypha, the French Oaks and Prix Vermeille winner, also had her final serious work before she attempts to give Pat Eddery his fifth, Khaled Abdulla his third and Andre Fabre his second Arc victory.

Subotica, who was yesterday backed from 16-1 to 12-1 with Ladbrokes, and Arcangues, Fabre's other big-race runners, were also in action.

After Jolypha, a full sister to Dancing Brave, had galloped over ten furlongs, the French champion trainer said: "She went really well and I'm convinced she represents my best chance of winning the Arc since Trempolino."

There were 21 acceptors at

yesterday's forfeit stage but Rainbow Corner, Soiree Mondaine and Seattle Saviour will not run. In addition to Market Booster, Crigante Head's Petit Loup is also expected to be supplemented.

Those wanting to back the six British raiders en bloc would have to lay 5-4 on. This is hardly surprising as, apart from User Friendly, they include Dr Devious, Mashaallah and Saddlers' Hall.

At yesterday's Newmarket sales, Peter Chapple-Hyam said that he was pleased with Dr Devious, the recent conqueror of St Jovite at Leopardstown.

"He worked well at Mantion on Monday morning on the round gallop. I'm completely satisfied that he's back in the same condition as when he won the Derby."

Cash Assmusen, successful last year on Suave Dancer, flew to Britain yesterday to partner Seattle Dancer in a gallop at Whitebury.

Afterwards David Elsworth said: "The horse went well. Cash will ride unless he is required by John Hammond for Dear Doctor. In that event I am hopeful of getting Michael Roberts."

The thousands of British visitors could have plenty to cheer about on Saturday.

The Grand Critérium has seven British-trained two-year-olds among the 16 acceptors. Andre Fabre has left in Zafonic but the 4-1 favourite for next year's 2,000 Guineas will run in the event of a mishap to Tenby, also owned by Khaled Abdulla, who will be supplemented today by Henry Cecil.

Drum Taps and Witness Box are among the eight acceptors for Saturday's other group one race, the Prix du Cadran, while the group two Prix Dollar has attracted no less than 12 British entries including Alnasr Alwasheek, Knutebok, Corrupt and Environment Friend.

ADVANCE GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

4.30 CIGA PRIX DE L'ARC DE TRIOMPHE

(Group 1, £513,875; 1m 40s)

(Group 1)	110911	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	5	110911	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
2	111412	DEAR DOCTOR (J Chapple-Hyam) (GB) 4-4-4	6	111412	DEAR DOCTOR (J Chapple-Hyam) (GB) 4-4-4
3	111422	SUBTILTY (J Lucas) (A Fairs) 4-4-4	7	111422	SUBTILTY (J Lucas) (A Fairs) 4-4-4
4	110923	SAPPHIRE (N O'Grady) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	8	110923	SAPPHIRE (N O'Grady) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
5	110924	PRY AMMOKE (E Widdows) (A Fairs) 4-4-4	9	110924	PRY AMMOKE (E Widdows) (A Fairs) 4-4-4
6	110925	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	10	110925	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
7	110927	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	11	110927	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
8	110928	ART BLEED (D Widdows) (A Fairs) 4-4-4	12	110928	ART BLEED (D Widdows) (A Fairs) 4-4-4
9	110934	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	13	110934	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
10	110935	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	14	110935	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
11	110936	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	15	110936	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
12	110937	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	16	110937	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
13	110938	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	17	110938	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
14	110939	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	18	110939	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
15	110940	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	19	110940	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
16	110941	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	20	110941	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
17	110942	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	21	110942	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
18	110943	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	22	110943	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
19	110944	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	23	110944	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
20	110945	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	24	110945	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
21	110946	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	25	110946	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
22	110947	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	26	110947	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
23	110948	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	27	110948	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
24	110949	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	28	110949	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
25	110950	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	29	110950	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
26	110951	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	30	110951	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
27	110952	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	31	110952	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
28	110953	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	32	110953	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
29	110954	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	33	110954	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
30	110955	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	34	110955	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
31	110956	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	35	110956	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
32	110957	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	36	110957	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
33	110958	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	37	110958	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
34	110959	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	38	110959	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
35	110960	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	39	110960	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
36	110961	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	40	110961	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
37	110962	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	41	110962	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
38	110963	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	42	110963	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
39	110964	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	43	110964	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
40	110965	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	44	110965	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
41	110966	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	45	110966	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
42	110967	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	46	110967	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
43	110968	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	47	110968	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
44	110969	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	48	110969	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
45	110970	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	49	110970	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
46	110971	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	50	110971	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
47	110972	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	51	110972	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
48	110973	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	52	110973	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
49	110974	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	53	110974	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
50	110975	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	54	110975	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
51	110976	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	55	110976	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
52	110977	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	56	110977	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
53	110978	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	57	110978	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
54	110979	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	58	110979	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
55	110980	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	59	110980	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
56	110981	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	60	110981	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
57	110982	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	61	110982	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
58	110983	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	62	110983	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
59	110984	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	63	110984	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
60	110985	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	64	110985	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
61	110986	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	65	110986	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
62	110987	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	66	110987	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
63	110988	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	67	110988	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
64	110989	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	68	110989	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
65	110990	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	69	110990	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
66	110991	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	70	110991	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
67	110992	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	71	110992	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
68	110993	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	72	110993	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
69	110994	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	73	110994	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
70	110995	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	74	110995	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
71	110996	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	75	110996	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
72	110997	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	76	110997	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
73	110998	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	77	110998	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
74	110999	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	78	110999	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
75	111000	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	79	111000	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
76	111001	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	80	111001	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
77	111002	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	81	111002	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
78	111003	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	82	111003	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
79	111004	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	83	111004	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
80	111005	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	84	111005	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
81	111006	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	85	111006	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
82	111007	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	86	111007	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
83	111008	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	87	111008	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
84	111009	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	88	111009	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
85	111010	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	89	111010	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
86	111011	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	90	111011	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
87	111012	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	91	111012	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
88	111013	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	92	111013	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
89	111014	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	93	111014	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
90	111015	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	94	111015	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
91	111016	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	95	111016	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
92	111017	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	96	111017	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
93	111018	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	97	111018	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
94	111019	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	98	111019	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
95	111020	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	99	111020	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4
96	111021	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4	100	111021	AGHAGHALL (H O'Shea) (Ireland) (GB) 4-4-4

Torpedo keep their cool in shoot-out to eliminate English side in Moscow

Manchester United pay penalty

Torpedo Moscow..... 0
Manchester United..... 0
(Torpedo win 4-3 on penalties)

FROM DAVID MILLER
IN MOSCOW

A MEMORABLE Uefa Cup tie in unrelenting rain here yesterday slid away from Manchester United when they squandered a 2-0 lead in a penalty shoot-out. There are few worse ways to lose, and United had given a performance worthy of the club's reputation.

They had survived the whole of extra time playing with ten men after Hughes, booked in the first half, stupidly kicked the ball away at a free kick in the final minute of normal time. In such moments of indiscipline are matches lost.

The unfortunate trio who missed penalties, to let Torpedo off the hook, were Bruce, McClair and, with sudden death and 3-3 after five kicks per team, Pallister. No lasting blame should be shouldered by them in this wretchedly expedient distortion of real football. The truth of a fine match, endlessly skilful in terrible conditions, was that Torpedo had fractionally the better of the play. Perhaps, however, United should practice penalties for another time.

If Manchester United deserved to survive, it was primarily due to Peter Schmeichel's save on the hour, as good as he has ever made, from the dexterous but histrionic Talalayev, who should have settled it for Torpedo.

At any stage of the 120 minutes the result could have gone either way, balanced between United's controlled defensive game with intelligent breakaways and the varying but frustrated attacking of Torpedo's youthful side.

The difference between summer and winter football can be extreme: from the World Cup finals, say, of Spain, Mexico or Italy, to an evening such as this, a stirring duel in bitter conditions at Torpedo's old-fashioned, tree-lined stadium skinned by the Moscow river. The floodlights were hazy behind the slanting rain, the autumnal colours of the trees without warmth as the smallish crowd huddled beneath umbrellas. Here was a night for character as much as skill, and in neither were United found wanting.

The last throws of the dice in normal time saw United thrice denied. With five minutes remaining, Irwin crossed low from the left and Webb's



Evasive action: Giggs leaves Moscow Torpedo defenders sprawling during a Manchester United attack in their Uefa Cup tie yesterday

drive leapt back off the foot of the right-hand post. If that was unlucky, in the scramble that followed, the loose ball was unquestionably held by a Torpedo defender on the ground. The Danish referee was unsighted. Moments later came Hughes' indiscretion.

Talayev, who had been so threatening at Old Trafford and was again so last night, still had one more moment when he made and simultaneously lost a winning chance. United were playing steadily enough in extra time, but in the first minute of the second period, Talalayev accelerated into the penalty area. Pallister's desperate tackle brought him down two yards inside, but the referee, no doubt irritated by repetitive diving by Talalayev, ignored what seemed a penalty.

Alex Ferguson, against expectation, decided to include Webb in midfield rather than Robson, but five minutes before half-time, Robson was sent out as an additional midfielder player in place of Wallace, who tore a muscle. It

was Robson's first appearance of the season, and the same was true of Parker, when he replaced Phelan at right back ten minutes into the second half. United now looked particularly solid. The referee did a reasonable job in difficult circumstances. Three men on either side were booked before Hughes was sent off.

In spite of being lightweight, Torpedo were full of imagination, even though confronted by opponents often pulling ten men behind the ball. Occasionally, Torpedo's pace on the flanks got them behind United's back line and it was from one of these that Schmeichel was forced to make his save. Afanaseyev cutting past Phelan to open the way for Talalayev, Schmeichel parried the resulting shot and the loose ball was fired over by Grishin.

In the 63rd minute, a low cross from Giggs had Hughes, on the 18-yard line, hooking a shot which was only just reached by Podshivlov. Webb, who had an intelligent match, was often pressing and it was no surprise when he so nearly snatched the late winner.

When the penalty circus arrived, Schmeichel saved from Borisov and Afanaseyev shot over the bar, Irwin giving United a 2-0 lead. Then Chuganov and Ulyanov scored while Bruce and McClair missed. Pallister scored and so did Robson to keep United level but then Pallister failed to emulate Grishin and it was all over.

"At the end of the day you've got to score goals," Ferguson lamented. "It's very disappointing to lose on penalties when you've been two up."

Stewart dismissed as Liverpool go through

Apollon Limassol..... 1
Liverpool..... 2
(Liverpool win 8-2 on aggregate)

FROM IAN ROSS
IN LIMASSOL

Liverpool completed their passage through into the last 16 of this season's European Cup Winners' Cup in Cyprus last night, but not without some discomfort.

An indifferent performance against opponents of only limited ability may have been enough to guarantee victory in this first round, second leg tie, but the Merseyside club's problems continued with the second-half dismissal of Paul Stewart.

Stewart was sent off in the 72nd minute after slapping Michalis Christofi in the face seconds after they had collided. Stewart could now face a three-match suspension from European competition.

The prospect of attempting to retrieve a 6-1 deficit from first leg of the tie a fortnight before did little to dampen the natural enthusiasm that Liverpool had shown at Anfield to help to sustain a limited, if at times productive, challenge.

Bearing in mind Liverpool's pedestrian form of late, an early goal by the hosts would possibly have enlivened proceedings. Sadly, constructive football was well-nigh impos-

sible on a dry and hard playing surface.

However, while the opening quarter of an hour was bereft of chances and instantly forgettable in terms of quality, it was laced with unpleasant challenges, both on and off the ball.

Ioannou set the tone as early as the third minute when he scythed down Butrows to earn himself a booking, which he did not contest.

Stewart, restored to the Liverpool side after a three-match absence, was lucky to stay on the pitch when he kicked out at the passing figure of Charalambos Christofi in the sixth minute. Fortunately for Stewart, all three officials either missed the incident, or misinterpreted what they had seen.

The game was beginning to turn nasty, and the underlying feeling of simmering discontent was not helped by an incident in the eighth minute when Juris was carried off after being involved in a collision with Walters.

Although McManaman was, perhaps, a slightly unlucky to see his firm drive saved by Michalis Christofi in the 16th minute, Liverpool's football was largely unconvincing, and as the opening half neared its climax, Limassol began to penetrate a hitherto well organised defence.

Grobelaar, having sur-

vived several uncomfortable moments, was almost beaten on the half-hour when Ioannides's low drive struck the base of a post.

Ioannou was the first player to reach the ball as it cannoned back into play, but his shot, accurate though it was, was acrobatically palmed away to safety by a vigilant goalkeeper.

As Limassol's sense of frustration began to match Liverpool's indifference, the quality of a wretched game began to plummet. However, as if to make a mockery of what had gone before, both sides scored goals within the space of 90 seconds midway through the second half.

Limassol took the lead in the 61st minute when Spiliadis swept home a Pittas cross, only for Rush to claim his fifth goal of the tie and his twentieth in European football shortly afterwards when he turned in a cross from Hutchison.

Hutchison, Liverpool's outstanding player, gave them the lead in the 69th minute when he showed great confidence in the penalty area to convert a pass from McManaman.

APOLLON LIMASSOL: M. Christofi; A. Andreou, C. Pissas, D. Ieremiou, C. Christofi; J. Vangelopoulos, O. Ioannides, M. Spiliadis, C. Juris, A. Tzoukas, D. Karyi (sub: D. Vamvakis).

LIVERPOOL: B. Grobelaar; M. Marsh, D. Butrows, N. Tanner, J. Redgrave, D. Hutchison, S. Molekrispan, P. Stewart, J. Rush, J. Mobley, M. Walters (sub: S. Andrew). Referee: S. Lova (Italy).

Chapman pays price for Preston's poor start

FOOTBALL's managerial sacking season has begun (Louise Taylor writes). Preston North End yesterday dismissed Les Chapman, less than 24 hours after Carlisle United had parted with Aidan McCaffery.

Chapman, 44, had been in charge at Preston for two years after originally joining them

as a player in 1986. He paid the price for a poor start to the season, which was sealed by the home defeat to Hartlepool United last Saturday — a result that left Preston 17th in the second division. The post will be advertised nationally and Sam Allardyce, the former Sunderland central defender, will act as caretaker.

Seventeenth is clearly a dangerous position for managers. When Carlisle dropped to that placing in the third division, McCaffery's number was up. Michael Knighton, the Carlisle chairman, acted swiftly to replace him yesterday. David McCreery, the former Northern Ireland, Manchester United and Newcastle United

midfield player, who has also turned out for Carlisle, was appointed.

Chelsea are looking to Russia to end their search for a goalkeeper. Ian Porterfield, the manager, hopes to bring Dimitri Khazin, who keeps goal for the CIS and CSKA Moscow, on loan to Stamford Bridge on a week's trial.

French want token black in tour party

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

SOUTH Africa's rugby union touring party had scarcely touched the tarmac yesterday at the start of its visit to France and England before it was embroiled in controversy. It was revealed that, two hours before the flight left Johannesburg on Monday, a request was received from the French Government that a black player should be included in the party.

Given that the squad of 30 was named a fortnight ago the French government, through the sports ministry, left its curious insistence on tokenism a little late. "We were told about it two hours before we were due to leave, which was obviously too short notice," Abie Malan, the team manager, said.

"Our team is picked on merit. That is the way it has been and that is the way it always will be. We were surprised, to say the least, at the French government's attitude." It may be that the sports ministry had in mind that the French contingent which took part in the South African Rugby Board centenary celebrations in 1989 included Jean-Philippe Elhorga, a Coloured flanker from St Jean-de-Luz, which also smacked of a token gesture at the time. Elhorga was well short of the required playing standard.

Officials of the French Rugby Federation (FFR) refused to comment, although one of them, Jean Montel, said that if the government wanted an addition to the agreed party of 30 players and six officials, the FFR could pay for him. The matter will be discussed in

Bordeaux on Friday between FFR officials and officers of the South African Rugby Football Union whose general manager, Arrie Oberholzer, said: "When South African rugby was unified we agreed selection would be on merit and that is exactly how we have selected this team. The last thing we want is to fly a player over to France as window-dressing. If a player can't make it on merit he will be a hindrance to everyone, including himself."

Naas Botha, the South African captain, in an interview with the French sports newspaper, *L'Equipe*, said: "I have taken part in lots of training sessions for young blacks but you have to be realistic. For the time being the best rugby players are white. In the future that will change."

The touring party spent only a short time in Paris before leaving for the first match on Saturday in Bordeaux against the French Espoirs. "This is obviously an historic moment for us," John Williams, the coach, who toured France as a player in 1974, said.

Asked about differing refereeing interpretations, Williams said: "You always have to adapt to the way the referee plays it." Both the international matches between France and South Africa, on October 17 in Lyon, and on October 24 in Paris, will be handled by Brian Kinsey, of Australia, while Stephen Hilditch (Ireland) will officiate in the England-South Africa match on November 14 at Twickenham.

Wales team, page 28

Davies backs her team to lift cup

By MITCHELL PLATTS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

LAURA Davies has assured her European team-mates that they can win the Solheim Cup, which starts at Dalmahoy on Friday, despite a barbed attack directed at them by a member of the United States team.

Beth Daniel, the top player on the United States LPGA Tour on three occasions and a winner of more than 30 tournaments, said: "You could put any one of us on the European side and make it better. But the only Europeans who could help us are Laura Davies and Liselotte Neumann."

Daniel's remarks were made in the American magazine, *Golf Digest*, and Davies, clearly incensed, reacted swiftly, despite fears that a protracted debate might create animosity.

"What Beth has said is a load of old rubbish, absolute nonsense," Davies said. "We will wait and see what happens on the golf course. We've got Flo Descampe, a winner on the US Tour, and Helen Alfredsson, who has just won the rookie of the year title over there, in our team. Any one who doesn't want them on their team must be foolish."

"I think you can make a case for any one of our players improving any team. And from a golfing point of view, there are a few Americans here who I would not want in our team."

In times past, when Edinburgh Castle was under siege, a smoke signal would be sent up to the watchman at Dalmahoy from where the

Eari of Morton, the custodian of the castle, would launch a rescue operation. This time, Daniel seems to have lit a fire which could smoulder all week.

The second Solheim Cup might not quite provoke the "War on the Shore" headlines which the Ryder Cup match achieved at Kiawah Island last year, but it has the makings of an exciting skirmish. The "Duel at Dalmahoy" has only just begun.

Mickey Walker, Europe's captain, felt that Daniel had no justification in making such remarks. "I can't tell you what the rest of my team said about her," Walker said. "I can tell you it has made them all the more determined to win. We want to prove to all the Americans how much better we are than two years ago."

Descampe has made such significant strides that Davies regards her as the best player she has seen. Descampe, whose father owns a golf course in their native Belgium, won the Stratton Mountain Classic on the US LPGA Tour in August.

She is among the top 25 money-winners along with the Swedish players, Helen Alfredsson and Liselotte Neumann. Alfredsson has secured the rookie of the year award for this year; Neumann won the US Open in 1988.

Kathy Whitworth, the United States captain, will fly home today, following the death of her mother, Alice Milner, winner of eight tournaments on the US LPGA Tour, has taken over.

FA likely to suspend Jones over 'hard men' video

By LOUISE TAYLOR

VINNIE Jones faces a suspension from football for starring in a video which has created such a furore it seems certain to be a best-seller. The Wimbledon midfielder player has confirmed his knack of self-promotion by presenting a film entitled *Soccer's Hard Men*, described as "an unashamed celebration of the game's wildest exponents".

The Football Association studied the tape yesterday and is expected to charge Jones with misconduct today. Suspension, possibly for several matches, seems certain, as do healthy sales.

The publicity promoting

the video, which is fronted by Jones, boasts that it is "the toughest football video in history... it features bone-crunching tackles, appalling fouls, dreadful dirty tricks and the painful pushes and punches that earned hard men their legendary reputations as the wild men of football folklore".

Jones, 27, has become a wealthy man after spells with Luton, Wimbledon, Leeds United, Sheffield United and Chelsea, before returning to Wimbledon earlier this month. His street-credibility and popularity among supporters will be boosted by the secrets he lets slip. He reveals that players apparently offering opponents a helping hand back to

their feet often take hold of their under-arm hair and tug. And that professionals have a responsibility to persevere the papers to discover which wives have walked out on their husbands. "That sort of thing is great for the verbal; you can really wind people up," Jones says.

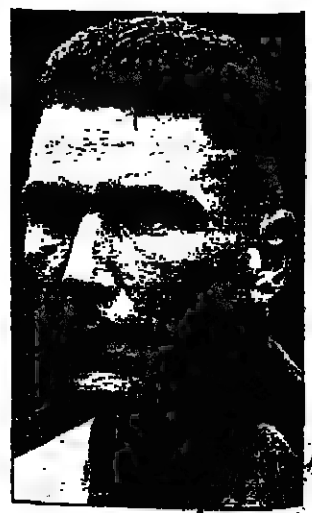
Wimbledon yesterday distanced themselves from the Vision Video film, which is to be released on October 19. Sam Hammam, the club's owner, described Jones as "a mosquito brain" and said: "It is nothing to do with Wimbledon. He was playing for Chelsea when the video was made and must have had their permission."

Jones, a founder member of Wimbledon's original "crazy gang", details how he helped them defeat Liverpool in the 1988 FA Cup final by "taking out" Steve McMahon.

The video's "elite band" — dubbed *The Dirty Dozen* — features Graeme Souness, Bryan Robson, McMahon, Billy Bremner, Jack Charlton, Ron Harris, Norman Hunter, Dave MacKay, Tommy Smith, Nobby Stiles, Peter Storey and Jones. Jones is described as "arguably the hardest of them all", but comparing internationalists of the calibre of Souness and Bremner to the technically inferior Jones will bruise a few egos.

Aware of affording the video free advertising while needing to punish Jones, David Bloomfield, the FA's press officer, said yesterday: "We do not want to give this unnecessary publicity because we are all victims of hype and marketing over content. In reality, the video is a very tiresome patchwork of old football clips. We are still studying it and deciding on what action to take."

Players charged with misconduct have always been fined but in this case the FA is likely to use its power to suspend. Unless, of course, the video inspires an opponent to offer him a taste of his own medicine.



Jones: charge likely

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LEGACY



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WOMEN p5

Margaret

Hodge:

regrets but no
apologies

LIFE & TIMES

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30 1992

HOMES p7

Fierce battles
promised over
leasehold
reformsGoing
for the
big
breakHow the zapper
has brought a
revolution to TV
viewing

Pity the poor television advertiser. He fights for our attention, but it is an unequal fight. We turn on our TV sets to watch programmes he would rather we watched his adverts. And these days the advertiser has something else to contend with: the zapper, the remote control. The moment a programme is finished — or even halfway finished — bloop, the selfish viewer turns the telly off, or over.

This is the problem tackled by *The Zapper and the Advertiser*, a new study from the Billett Consultancy. The consultancy looked at 1,000 households to find out how they behaved when the ad came on. You could have worked out most of the findings for yourself, but there are a couple of surprises.

The first is that quality is appreciated. Billett found that people are more likely to get bored with a one-hour *Law* than a one-hour *Maigret*. *Coronation Street*, *The Bill* and *You've Been Framed* ("quality") gain audience during the programme.

A non-surprise is that people are more likely to go channel-hopping at the end of a programme than during the middle. During breaks in the middle of a programme 4.5 per cent of people switched off or changed channel, while 12 per cent zapped at a break.



Quality viewing: Michael Gambon as Maigret

Eight per cent of people watching the *News at Ten* do not stay on to hear, after the break, about how Harry the Hedgehog got into a pickle; but, unless this is a misprint, 42 per cent of live football watchers flip over during half-time, never to return. People change over half as often at weekends. Billett suggests "this may be due to the different weekend viewing ambience". Or not — they express "some concern" over the accuracy of their results.

The recommendations are unusual, though, and could change the face of television. "Perhaps now is the time to remove programme credits," Billett says, their logic being that most people switch off when the credits come on, anyway... a bit like a biscuit manufacturer announcing that it will no longer make the first and last biscuit in a pack because they always get broken. An alternative would be to move end credits to a position immediately before the following programme. Billett believes that ITV could increase the number of viewers aged 16 to 24 if it stopped end credits and end-break advertising. This is fine for the viewer, not so fine for the advertiser, who wants to make a cup of tea between programmes.

"We also wonder whether a sensible change would be to increase the advertising minutage for centre breaks during peak hours and a reduction in end-break minutage." So, this could be the future: a brief pause for breath between programmes, but a massive slice of adverts during them. The advertisers will get you yet.

NICHOLAS LEZARD

What will the
Danes do now?As their prime ministers prepare to meet,
Alice Thomson takes two twin town views

Denmark suffers from an identity problem in Britain. Many British people would not be able to tell you the difference between Denmark and her Scandinavian neighbours. Until this year few in Britain had ever thought about Denmark. Those who did probably saw our North Sea neighbour as a low-profile, thatched-roofed, half-timbered fairyland idyll inhabited by happy-go-lucky farmers.

Now the country known predominantly for its butter, bacon and beer might help decide Britain's future. The arrival of the Danish prime minister, Poul Schlüter, in London today will be the subject of unprecedented media interest. With the Conservative party split on Europe and the French having voted to ratify the Maastricht treaty, John Major's European policy has essentially become, "Wait and see what the Danes do".

The Danes narrowly rejected the Maastricht treaty in their referendum in June but will be given a second referendum next year. Mr Major hopes to use the breathing space to give him time to reconcile the divisions within his party. He has also made clear that if the Danes vote no again Maastricht as it stands will be dead for the British. Both countries are unhappy with Maastricht, but are they unhappy about the same things?

St Albans, in Britain, and Odense, in Denmark, have been twinned since 1948 when representatives from Odense were invited to attend a St Albans pageant at the suggestion of Count Scheel, a citizen of Odense who had lived in St Albans for many years. Although Odense, population 150,000, is larger than St Albans, they share many similarities. Both cities thrive on their history, Odense being the birthplace of Hans Christian Andersen and St Albans the third largest Roman city in Britain. They did well in the 1980s with the introduction of light industry and the growth of service industries but now suffer high unemployment.

So how similar do these twins feel about their role in Europe? On a Friday lunchtime in Odense everyone was already leaving their offices for the weekend. "The Odense people are not as fast as Copenhagen's. We enjoy life and have a relaxed time with our friends eating, drinking and playing sport. We are normally very happy go-lucky. The majority of citizens here voted no in the referendum on Maastricht because they were frightened of change," said Barbara Whitmarsh, the executive manager of the tourist board before heading off for her summer house. "Most people are contented here. The social policies are the best in Europe. We have free hospitals, shorter working hours, good unemployment benefit and we don't want them eroded by Brussels."

According to Ms Whitmarsh, her female friends feel particularly strongly about this issue. "We have equal opportunities, maternity leave, free crèche systems and over 80 per cent of women work," she said. "If we have a closer European unity we risk getting sucked down to other countries' levels. If I am going to vote yes I need to know that Brussels isn't going to erode our social security system."

Hanne Buchardt was picking up her children from school. She is a teacher at Høgheskolen, a mixed

school for children aged from five to 16, and voted yes in the last referendum. "The British are an island people. We are part of the Continent," she said. "Many of the people in Britain seem against the principle of Europe, whereas we are against the details. I do not agree with much of Maastricht but I want to stay in the EC as a full participating member."

By six o'clock in the evening most residents were milling around the cobble street centre enjoying the autumn sunshine. Flemming Jørgensen is an economics student at Odense University. He is staunchly pro-European but is

angry at the way the EC is heading. "The Germans and the French are acting very arrogantly. The idea of Europe is to be a strong counterpart to America and Japan. It is not to further the aims of the Germans and French. They are only interested in dominating a federal Europe," he said, waving a copy of the *Politiken*, a national newspaper, which has the front page headline "Arrogant Germans". "I want Europe to concentrate on common environmental standards rather than a common currency and to pay attention to the little countries," he said.

In the evening I went to dinner with Mette and Leif Nielsen, who own an engineering consultancy company and are just beginning to expand into eastern Germany. "Europe must exist and co-operate together to avoid any more wars," Mr Nielsen said. "We need a wide union so that we can bring everyone together and they can still keep their own identities. A two-tier system is dangerous. It will encourage super-countries." Mrs Nielsen agrees but, like many Danes, does not want a common defence policy. "The Danes are peaceable, many do not like the idea of having to send men to Yugoslavia," she said.

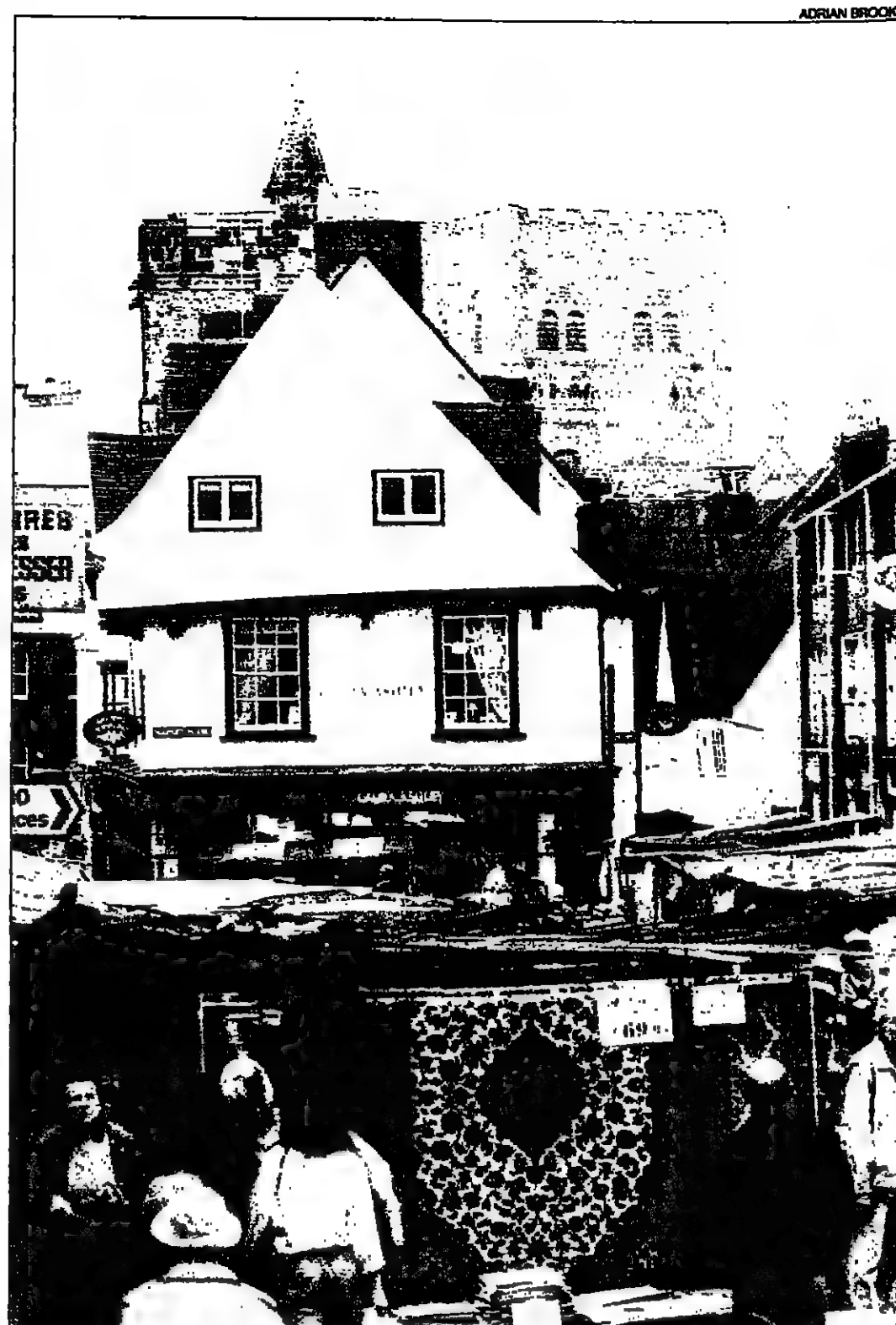
The next day the market was packed with people picking up bargains. Although the economy is doing well in Denmark, unemployment is high and there are 8,000 unemployed in Odense. Lizzie Hasler has been unemployed for four years but she does not think deeper union will help and voted no in the referendum. "My husband is British and my sister is married to a German. I feel very European but I went on a trip to

Brussels with my workers union and I thought 'this isn't really what Europe is about. This is just bureaucracy and politics.' Europe should be about ideas, culture, the environment and trade, not about petty rules and regulations. I think more people in other countries are beginning to think the same way."

She hopes that Britain stays in Europe. "But you can't compare us with Britain. We have totally different political systems. You have low taxes and a belief in working for yourself. We have high taxes [the top rate of income tax is 68 per cent] and the people are looked after by the state — even the



Danish view: a modern welfare state with a fairytale image



British view: a street scene in St Albans, where the people — and their children — appear divided

unemployed get £500 a month." In St Albans the effects of the recession are obvious. For Sale signs clutter the pavements and many of the high street shops are empty. The people are still tentatively optimistic about the future. Most are just confused about the choices. Unlike the Danes, who were all sent leaflets explaining the Maastricht treaty, many British do not know what it entails.

"I can't see why we need to get involved with all these European arguments. As long as the Americans keep buying our Rolls-Royces and the Europeans our vegetables we will be all right," said Cathy Malvern, a trainee hairdresser who was walking her dog over the old Roman ruins. "My parents want to keep out of Europe because they say interest rates will come down."

Sam Mullins, the director of museums in St Albans, took me on a tour of the city. "I am pro-Europe but I think that Brussels has done a very bad job at selling itself. All this nonsense about the right kind of cheese and sausages has put people

off," he said. "I don't know enough about the technical details to know if Maastricht will work but I don't think that Britain can afford to be left out."

The pupils of St Albans High School for Girls have devoted a week to discussing Europe. "The older children were mostly very pro-Europe," said Jenny Longbourne, the head of languages. "Once they understood the jargon, they saw it as a great potential for jobs and for Britain. It was the younger ones who were easily frightened by the possibility of losing their telephone boxes, their black taxis and their

national identity." She is pro-Europe but wants Mr Major to be given enough time to work out a sensible solution for Britain. "I don't think the government could have acted any differently during last month's crisis. But I don't feel it is a good idea to express dislike for Germany. It is much more useful to try to act together as partners, even though we may feel betrayed."

At the end of their week of discussion the children of St Albans High debated the motion, "Have the Danes got it right?" It was carried, just.

Honestly and truly, I had a lovely time

SINGLE LIFE: Lynne Truss on the
pitfalls of going over the top

In the new Penguin Book of British Comic Writing, published last Thursday, there is a short autobiographical essay by Elizabeth Bowen called "On Not Rising to the Occasion". I recommend it highly, especially if your memory of childhood etiquette disasters is still so vivid it makes you feel like running to the hall and burying your face in an Auntie's funny-smelling coat. Elizabeth Bowen's childhood was an Edwardian one, so she had proper guidance in suitable behaviour (she probably did not innocently repeat the word "git" in company, as I did), but she still misjudged it sometimes in a very particular way: she "overshot the mark". "Thank you, Mrs Robinson, so very, very much for the absolutely wonderful LOVELY party!" she would say. "Well, dear," her hostess would reply with a frigid smile. "I'm afraid it was hardly so wonderful as all that."

My own experience of childhood parties was a little different, since I felt awkward in the society of children and generally slipped out during pass-the-parcel to ask Mrs Robinson whether I could help with the washing up — which surprised her, especially if we hadn't eaten yet. "No, you go and have a good time," she said, mystified, pushing me out of the kitchen with her leg. Thus, when it came to going-home time, I did not embarrass her with my effusions; I merely cried with relief. "Lynne tried to help with the washing up," she would inform my older sister, tapping her forehead significantly. "Punny," said my sister loyally.

"She doesn't do that at home."

But I still managed to overshoot the mark in other ways. At the age of ten, for example, I went to a party where a game of forfeits was played — you know, where you are given a task, and the penalty for failure is to kiss a boy. When my turn came (and I had been led back to the games room by a kind but firm Mrs Robinson, who declined my wild-eyed offer of silver-polishing) I was informed that my task was to recite a poem. A limerick would have easily sufficed. But I was nervous, and desperate not to kiss a boy, so I launched into "The Highwayman", a long, galloping poem which unfortunately galloped off with me clinging on to its back, bouncing and helpless. In fact, I had got as far as "Tlot-tlot in the frosty silence" before the exasperated kids finally flung them selves bodily in front of my runaway poem, waving their arms, to make me stop.

Overshooting the mark in Elizabeth Bowen's sense is actually quite difficult these days, now that we have followed America into a more kissy-huggy-touchy-feely way of life. Saying merely "Thank you for the absolutely wonderful LOVELY party!" sounds tame, actually; it raises



suspicions that you didn't enjoy it. In 1978, when Woody Allen's film *Interiors* came out, I remember that it seemed genuinely peculiar to see women greet each other with "Hey! You look great! Your green is perfect!" while planting smackeres on one another's ear-rings. Nobody I knew behaved like that. But now I don't know anybody who doesn't. In fact nowadays, if someone neglects to applaud my green, I actually worry about it afterwards.

But what Elizabeth Bowen's essay brought to my mind most horribly was not the thank-you-for-having-me thing; or even the social smackeres. What it made me think of most was Selfridge's. Because one day, when I was in the basement there, I quite unwittingly overshoot the mark, and I still feel embarrassed about it. It happened quite by chance. I had only popped in for some diamond cat collars. But then I noticed this poor old bloke on a carpet-tiled plinth demonstrating a cordless travel iron, and I'm afraid it was *The Highwayman* all over again.

The trouble was, his little crowd was so unresponsive. "Now, you see this?" he said, without much enthusiasm, producing a bone-dry knot

ted lump of cotton velvet. Nobody moved, or indeed acknowledged his presence, so I piped up. I couldn't help it. "Gosh," I chuckled encouragingly, "I wouldn't want to iron that!" He gave me a look, then gravely unknotted the velvet and flourished his little iron over it — to amazing effect. Suddenly the cloth was smooth and lovely! Again, nobody clapped, or even murmured. So I said loudly "Well, I think that's quite remarkable. I've never seen anything like it. What an extraordinary device. I only came in for these cat-collars and a whole new world has been revealed."

And I got increasingly voluble. I don't know why. "That's amazing," I said flatly, as his crowd started to wander off. "Do that again. Wow, I can't believe how those creases are coming out." I felt I was doing him a useful turn, although I couldn't help noticing that by the time the demonstration ended I was the only person left. "Thank you," I said warmly. "That was marvelous," and went off to pay for the cat collars. And when I looked back, I noticed he was pointing me out to a sales assistant, who was patting him gently on the shoulder.

Only when I got home did I realise I had overshoot the mark so badly I had sounded like a "plant", by which time it was too late to apologise. Damn. I often wonder how close I got, actually, to being clocked over the bonce with a miracle travel iron. It would have been such a pointless way to go. Whatever the merits of this extraordinary velvet-smotherer, it was hardly so wonderful as all that.

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BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: The BBCSO under Andrew Davis gives the second of two concerts. This week in a series called The British Line. Tonight Joshua Bell is the soloist in Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No. 1. The concert is a programme that also includes Johannes Brahms' Little Symphony and a London Symphony by Vaughan Williams.

THE LSO UNDER MICHAEL THOMAS: The LSO under Michael Thomas gives the world premiere of the Oboe Concerto by Dominic Muldowney (with Roy Carter the soloist). Muldowney's Oboe Concerto No. 5 is a complete work.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING: The respected Oxford Stage Company stages Shakespeare's comedy under the direction of Romanus Alexander. Dates: 25-26 Sept. 7.30pm. And then tomorrow, 27 Sept. 7.30pm. And then tomorrow, 28 Sept. 7.30pm. And then tomorrow, 29 Sept. 7.30pm. And then tomorrow, 30 Sept. 7.30pm.

DRAWN FROM LIFE: Martin Shorro's first one-man show of drawings and prints of London landmarks, plus a series of drawings of the National Trust's Roundhouse for Art. Newly restored Sutton House, Hackney, renovated by the Trust as an East End arts centre, is full of historic 16th-

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Heather Alston

THE ALBANY: David Bradley and Jonathan Hyde reliving the town in Sam Mendes's very funny production of *Shogun's*. 7.15pm. 12 seats. Final performance.

THE MADNESS OF GEORGE III: Royal Household is very fine in the striking king in Alan Bennett's intriguing, slightly puzzling play. National Theatre, South Bank, SE1 01 7.30pm. 7.30pm. 17.00pm. 17.00pm. 17.00pm.

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THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
■ Seats at all prices

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CINEMA

How Columbus discovered the big screen

Eighty years on, David Robinson looks back at the spectacular film debut of the man who, all the critics agreed, was bound to go far

A headline in a leading film trade journal calls it "The Greatest Ever". "Described as a historical view of incidents in the life and discoveries of Christopher Columbus," the review continues, "the magnificent visualisation... is in a word the finest picture ever yet made, and one of which mere words absolutely fail to convey the remotest idea of its excellence."

The film in question is neither the Gérard Depardieu version of *Christopher Columbus*, nor the rival production with George Corraface and Marion Brando. Not even *Carry On Columbus*. The review in fact appeared just 80 years ago: and the film — the first of generations of Columbus pictures — was called *The Coming of Columbus*.

The public and film industry alike were astounded by the film's ambition and spectacle. It was 45 minutes long, when most pictures still ran no more than 15, the length of one reel. The cast numbered 350. The reported cost of \$50,000 was unprecedented.

The man behind this sensational enterprise was "Colonel" William Nicholas Selig, an archetypal figure from the movies' buccannery first days. As a youth in the 1880s he had toured the West as a conjuror; then run a minstrel show, for the purposes of which he conferred on himself the military rank he claimed till the end of his career.

In the late 1890s he counterfeited other people's moving picture inventions and marketed the result as the Selig Polyscope. He was one of the most prolific film producers before the first world war. Though his headquarters remained in Chicago, he established the first studio in California.

His enterprise sometimes verged on the unscrupulous. In 1909 ex-President Theodore Roosevelt embarked on a much publicised African safari. Piqued at not being allowed to send a cameraman with the expedition, Selig hired a Roosevelt impersonator,

dressed — or undressed — a posse of unemployed Chicago blacks to look like African bearers, and bought a somewhat second-hand lion.

Before Roosevelt had even landed in Africa, Selig had staged the safari in the studio. The man who sold him the lion was appalled when, in the cause of realism, the animal was slain by the Roosevelt actor, who turned out to be a bad shot and had several attempts before the unfortunate creature died in agony. The black bears then skinned it before the cameras.

The unsuspecting public were, however, thrilled by *Roosevelt in Africa*, and the film returned its \$10,000 investment many times over. After this, Selig invested in a whole collection of wild animals, and the Selig Zoo became one of the sights of Hollywood.

The Columbus picture was to be his biggest single enterprise.

The idea was inspired by the full-scale replicas of Columbus's caravels, the Santa Maria, Pinta and Niña, which the Spanish government had bequeathed to the Chicago Park Commission after the Great Columbian Exhibition of 1893. Much of the cost of the film went on making these seaworthy, and towing them out into Lake Michigan. Stormy conditions delayed shooting, which finally began on August 27 1911. The film was completed early in 1912.

The critics lauded the reality of the scenery and the naturalness of the acting (the stars were Charles Clary as Columbus and Kathryn Williams as Queen Isabella). In his quest for authenticity Selig had even borrowed Columbus's original log book, which was visible in the cabin scenes.

For the first presentation, a special musical score was compiled by Samuel L. Rothapel, who, as "Rox" later became the greatest builder of picture palaces in the United States. In London the film was launched with the accompaniment of a choir and a sextet. Selig's greatest publicity coup was to



First sight of land: Charles Clary as Columbus in Selig's 1912 film

present a copy of *The Coming of Columbus* to Pope Pius X, through the mediation of a missionary, Father Tonnello. Since the Pope had previously forbidden priests to visit the cinema, on account of the immorality of motion pictures, his acceptance of the gift was a significant endorsement.

The Pope told Tonnello: "It is my great desire that this wonderful invention should become a school of truth, of high education, of morality, of social and domestic virtues and of real benefit to humanity and religion." He hoped Selig would have every success with the film, and wished "to encourage him to make other films of such historic and moral value."

For the infant cinema, battling for respectability and recognition, the Pontiff's words were manna. The trade press devoted pages to the incident, with large pictures of the medals Pope Pius had sent to Selig, and descriptions of screenings in the Vatican, where "many eyes were moist".

The Coming of Columbus arrived at a crucial moment in the evolution of the movies. Apart from this substantial bid for social and educational respectability, it helped to establish the star system and the multi-reel "feature" film.

The critic of the British *Kinema-Graph* and *Lantern Weekly* declared that this was "a historical monument which will enlighten the world for centuries to come".

The achievements of "Colonel" Selig himself "entire his name to be handed down to posterity as the most potent factor in education America has ever known". Inevitably this was not to be. As the closing title of *The Coming of Columbus* itself reflected sadly, "Sic transit gloria virum". After the premiere, this Latin tag was deemed too highbrow, and it was altered to "So goes the Glory of Man". In the long view of history it all amounts to the same for "Colonel" Selig and his wonder film.

LONDON CONCERTS

Sounds of a less familiar England



Svetlanov: eastern European perspective on English music

THE knowledge that Elgar abandoned his Catholicism as part of a conscious drive to achieve the social respectability he craved may well add to our understanding of the particular anguish and nostalgia of his music. Already in 1899, as he started work on the oratorio *The Dream of Gerontius*, Elgar was concerned whether his "strong whiff of incense" would jar with its reception and hence the advance of his career.

Just how much the music itself reflects the sentiments of the text is thus a moot point. How differently would we hear the work if the poem had been, say, a historical romance rather than Cardinal Newman's Purgatory-inspired text?

Bringing an east European perspective to bear, Yevgeny Svetlanov, conducting the Philharmonia Orchestra at the Festival Hall on Saturday evening, suggested that one can approach the work in a non-mystical spirit without undue loss of spirituality. Svetlanov's reading of the work was characterised by a late-Romantic glow, with moments of high drama (including an apocalyptic crash at "Take Me Away"). The opening Prelude was beautifully sculpted, and demonstrated the kind of animated phrasing that

Philharmonia/Svetlanov BBCSO/Davis Festival Hall

was to inform the whole performance. There was some surprising ragged ensemble in both the orchestra and the normally dependable Philharmonia Chorus, though the professionalism of both bodies ensured that that did not seriously mar the proceedings.

More disconcerting was the contribution of Dennis O'Neill as Gerontius. Invoking his famously well-nourished Italianate tone rather than paying any attention to the drama (religious or otherwise) of the text, O'Neill gave a shamelessly ill-prepared, uncommitted read-through of the part. Head buried in the score, he showed no interest either in the audience or in the sense of the poem. "I will address him", says the Soul of the Angel in Part Two, before launching into an impassioned acclamation. It is obviously an aside, but you would not have known it from O'Neill's all-purpose heroic rig.

David Wilson-Johnson's glorious Priest and Angel of the Agony was sung with infinitely more intelligence.

so, too, was Jari van Nes's Angel.

National characteristics were also an issue in the first concert of the BBC Symphony Orchestra series, *The British Line*, the following evening in the Festival Hall. Andrew Davis conducted not only Vaughan Williams's most bellicose, least typical symphony, the Fourth, but also Steve Mandel's *Babi Yar*, a work as far from the pastoral English tradition as it is possible to get.

The title refers to the Nazi death camp in the Ukraine, which stands as a metaphor for man's inhumanity to man. The savage, rhythmic jabs, dominated by brutal brass and percussion, of the first 20 minutes suggest some exquisite form of torture, particularly when the bombardment seems several times to have finished, only to start up again with renewed vigour.

The force of Mandel's statement cannot be denied, but the point is made with a barbaric insistence that is itself as heedless of reason, logic or form as the totalitarian oppressor. The ending offers not so much "fragile hope" (the composer's words) as blessed release from the aural treadmill.

BARRY MILLINGTON

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

SPRING, King Street, St James's: An autumn exhibition of the watercolours of David Lewis. Prices: 2.50 to 1.50. Oct 1 to 30. Exhibition of Thelma Art. Unit 30.01. Nov 2 to 30.

CINEMAS

CURSON MAYFAIR: Curson St. 01 456 8866. Exhibition of the film *Curson Mayfair*. 10.15. 1.30. 3.45. 5.15. 7.30. 9.15. 11.15. 1.30. 3.45. 5.15. 7.30. 9.15. 11.15.

CURSON WEST END: Curson St. 01 456 8866. Exhibition of the film *Curson West End*. 10.15. 1.30. 3.45. 5.15. 7.30. 9.15. 11.15. 1.30. 3.45. 5.15. 7.30. 9.15. 11.15.

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Peculiar practice makes perfect

When Andrew Davies was young he used to shoplift. Looking half-ashamed, he recounts the heart-thumping excitement of pinching rather splendid pens and exercise books. "I didn't do it with other kids. I did it in this really Raskolnikovish sort of way, mixed up with fantasies about myself as a lonely, bold adventurer."

He gave it up eventually, when he found himself about to steal a book called *Ethics*, but remained fascinated by his own criminal impulses. Now, years later, inspired by Kingsley Amis's dictum that rich literary pickings exist for authors who take an aspect of themselves that worries them and push it to its conclusion, Davies has channelled these impulses into *B. Monkey*, a gripping tale of a graffiti-spraying, gun-toting girl robber addicted to the rush that comes from dealing, thieving and living on the edge.

It is his second novel. The first, *Getting Hurt*, was published to sparkling reviews a few years ago, as was a subsequent book of short stories, *Dirty Faxes*.

But while Davies may be only just inching into the limelight as a novelist, there is already a firmly established, He is currently, indisputably, British screenwriting's hottest ticket, the "King of the adapters", as one television executive puts it. Think of a recent, memorable television drama and the chances are Davies wrote it. A *Very Peculiar Practice* (now *A Very Polite Practice*), *Mother Love*, *House of Cards*, *The Old Devils* and *Anglo Saxon Attitudes* are all part of his canon.

"He is funny, truthful, direct and never bland: I'd commission almost anything with his name on it," says Nick Elliott, head of drama at London Weekend Television, who is working with Davies on an adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice*, which the writer once notoriously promised would put sex into Jane Austen and show a nude Mr Darcy taking a bath.

A wiry figure dressed in black with piercing blue eyes, a shock of white hair, an infectious laugh and a nice line in self-deprecating humour, Davies does not come across as a bodice-ripping sex fiend. Nor, clearly, has he allowed plaudits like Elliott's to go to his head. He chortles with delight over invitations from both Euston Films and Mark Shivas, the BBC's head of drama, to

Andrew Davies has put youthful follies to good use in his novels, as he tells Lisa O'Kelly

the Writers Guild awards, where he was nominated for two prizes: "I feel like a deb with too many suitors." Davies, 55, has waited a long time to be so gratifyingly sought after. His first television play, *Who's Going to Take Me On?*, about a typist in a knicker factory, was broadcast in 1967. For the next 20-odd years, he combined screenwriting with his job as a lecturer in Warwick University's teacher training department. "Well, you could hardly call it a job: I sat in my room and every so often 12 very pleasant and agreeable young people would come in to chat."

The big-time eluded him until

'Not many people write well about sex, but I do'

1986 when his own hilarious creation, *A Very Peculiar Practice*, which pricked at the pomposity of the medical profession, won great acclaim, followed by the sinister *Mother Love*. "Soon, I found myself turning down script conferences in Stockholm because I had to take a third year seminar, and I thought it must be time to take the plunge." So four years ago he resigned, treated himself to a vintage Mercedes, and became a full-time writer.

"I suppose it would be better for my career to specialise in either fiction or drama, but I enjoy doing both," he says, pointing out that he is not alone these days, with names like Malcolm Bradbury, David Lodge and John Mortimer also sharing their talents between the small screen and the printed page. Davies the novelist finds screenwriting a useful discipline. "It teaches you to be economical, that you don't have to go on and on,

describing the whole bloody room when one small detail can convey far more." His long apprenticeship has also helped make him a master of dialogue. "Adapting, in particular, has been good for that. It gives you a deep-seated sense of what works, what sounds real."

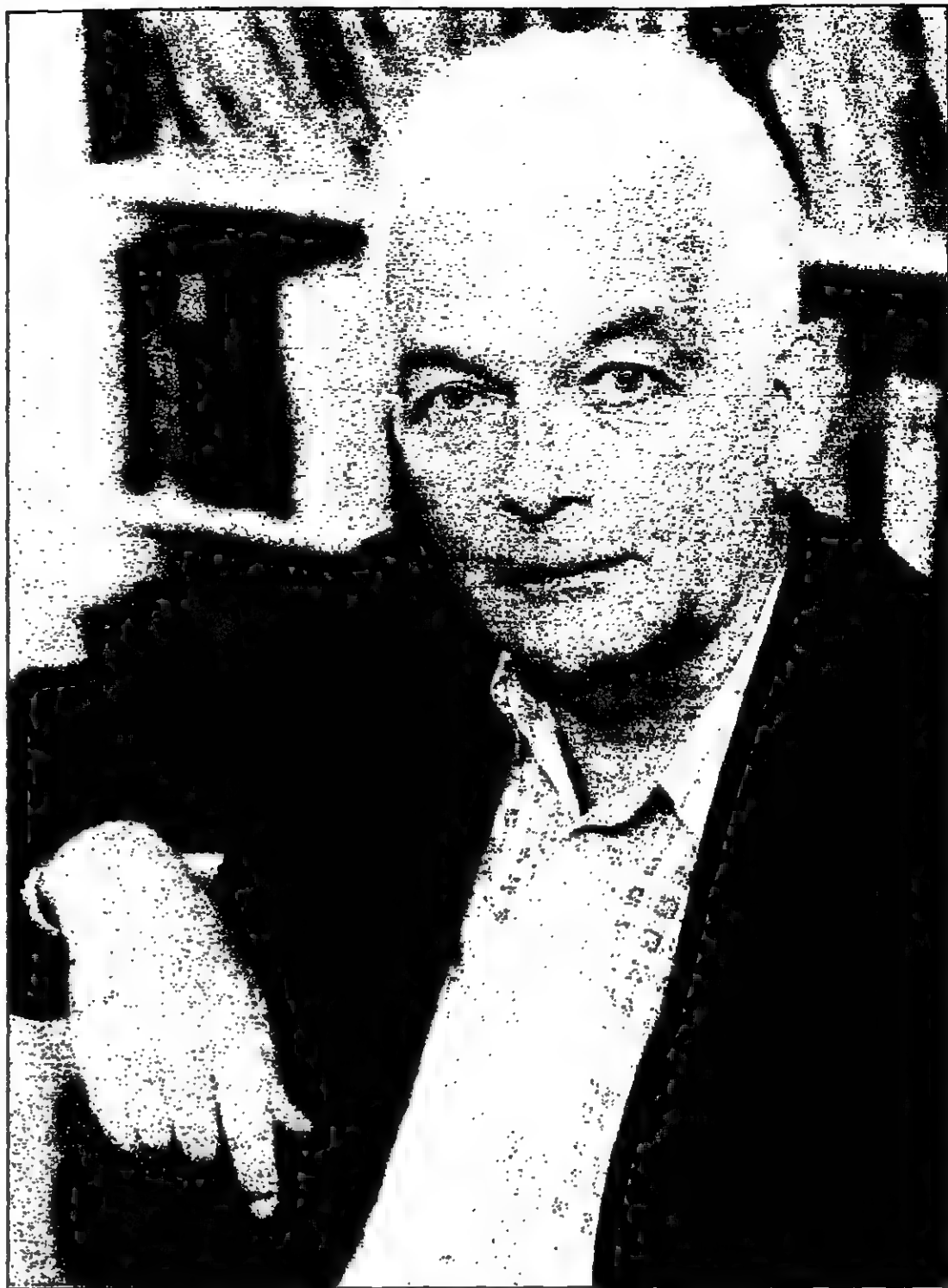
Some writers, like Mary Wesley, whose *Harnessing Peacocks* he has just adapted for Meridian TV, and Angus Wilson, who wrote *Anglo-Saxon Attitudes*, write such "perfect" dialogue that Davies just finds himself copying it out. "But you get others like Michael Dobbs [*House of Cards*] whose dialogue looks alright in a novel but sounds terribly stilted if anybody tries to speak it. You have to reinvent the way some characters talk."

Taking such liberties with other people's books requires a certain arrogance, and Davies admits that, beneath the self-deprecating jokes, he has considerable confidence in his own abilities—especially when it comes to the S-word. "Not many people write well about sex, but I do," he says matter-of-factly.

The subject certainly comes up a fair amount in whatever Davies is writing about, be it Jane Austen, the House of Commons or the street-wise B. Monkey, who appears naked in bed on page one of his new novel. He sees nothing untoward in this: "Sex is very important to me. But then, I would have thought it is to everybody. I cannot think of anyone I know who would not rate sex as one of the top three things they think and worry about, so I am always surprised more writers don't attach more importance to it."

In his judgement, the only contemporary writers who tackle sex convincingly are John Updike, Maggie Gee and Jenny Diski. Perhaps it is fear of failure which prevents others trying. "It can be blushing," Davies acknowledges. "When I first started doing it I felt very trembly and quite shy. I thought people might be laughing behind their hands saying, 'so this is how he thinks it's done, blimey, why didn't anybody tell him!'"

Because B. Monkey is a woman, Davies tested her sexual fantasies on some close female friends before committing them to print, but the responses varied so much he decided to go on his own gut feeling. He explains, "I heard William Boyd say he checked out *Brazzaville Beach* [also written from a woman's point of view] very carefully with women



Andrew Davies: firmly established as a screenwriter, now inching towards the limelight as a novelist

friends to make sure he was getting it absolutely right. I was mostly taking a flyer at it, getting this heady sense of this is what I would be like if I were a girl, take it or leave it. That is part of the great pleasure and excitement of writing."

However, anyone worrying that Davies plans to invent sexual fantasies for Elizabeth Bennett can stop now. "All I plan to do is find a way of expressing the tremendous sexual

energy in the book and to emphasise the physicality of the piece. But it will be done through allusion and atmosphere, anything more explicit would be absurd."

As well as *Pride and Prejudice*, Davies is working on *Middlemarch* for the BBC, but he wonders how long he will continue to get commissions like these. Classic adaptations rarely draw large audiences and the pressure to achieve high ratings is

intensifying on every channel. "I think there is a real danger this is leading programme makers to be afraid to be off-putting or controversial and that is very sad because that is where the energy comes from. Unless we are allowed to be adventurous and experimental, drama will become synthetic and formulaic, like soap."

By B. Monkey, by Andrew Davies is published by Lime Tree, £14.99

ARTS BRIEF

Moore space

WHILE Henry Moore's legacy becomes the subject of ever more bitter dispute in his homeland, Canada's magnificent collection of the Yorkshireman's sculptures is benefiting from a vast expansion programme. In Toronto on January 24 next year the Art Gallery of Ontario—home of the Henry Moore Sculpture Centre—will re-open with no fewer than 30 new and 20 renovated galleries. The £30 million scheme will increase the gallery's exhibition space by 60 per cent. Toronto has 131 of Moore's 900 sculptures, as well as 73 drawings and 689 of his prints.

Stage and screen

THE Royal Opera House has signed a deal said to be worth £10 million with the Japanese electronics company Pioneer. A new company, Covent Garden Pioneer, will film at least 20 operas and ballets performed by the Royal Opera, Royal Ballet and Birmingham Royal Ballet in the next five years. The Royal Opera House will receive royalties from sales.

First into the can will be next month's *Otello* with Plácido Domingo and Kiri Te Kanawa. The new company has also bought distribution rights to ten old BBC films of Covent Garden productions, dating back to the 1960s and featuring Nureyev, Fonteyn, Sutherland, Carreras, and Domingo. Jeremy Isaacs, the Opera House's general director, said: "It is the intention to establish the world's leading collection of recorded opera, ballet and gala performances."

Last chance...

AS YOU might expect from the title, the events in Gogol's play *Gamblers*, ending its run at the Tricycle, Kilburn, on Saturday (071-328 1000), centre on the thrills of wagering vast sums on the fall of a card. This stylish production really goes to town in these scenes, where playing cards come spraying off the stage in all directions. The play has a classic "sling" plot and is exhilaratingly played by a cast led by Oleg Menshikov, Phil Daniels and Mark Rylance.

OPERA: Fidelio revived at Covent Garden

In for a long stretch of porridge



Gabriela Benackova: the voice for Leonore in any house

This is the production of *Fidelio* in which Florentine sings "Gott Welch Dunkel hier!" lying in a bright shaft of sunlight. Time is sometimes merciful. All I remembered of Adolf Dresen's 1990 staging for the Royal Opera was that it was dull, the sort of thing that a competent staff producer might whip into some sort of shape.

Alas, that has not happened: it has been faithfully reproduced in all its pristine limpness. The dungeon scene in particular is staged with the sort of ineptitude that would get a first-year drama student sent down.

Worst of all is Dresen's rewriting of the dialogue, based on the false premise that the original is unplayable. In fact it is extremely carefully crafted, cunningly crisscrossed with the musical numbers, full of resonantly memorable lines (most of them cut by Dresen), and raising issues that are blandly passed over in the revised version. Is the excision of Florentine's wine, for example, and with it the sacramental metaphor, made on grounds of ideology or ignorance?

Motivation is muddled, and spoken and sung text do not always go in the same direction. Maybe the sheer topical-

ity this week of the reworked plot—based on an assessment of Pizarro's prison by the ministry in Seville—proved too great a temptation to an opera house that is itself being assessed. But seriously, that this text and this production should be seen twice in a major opera house beggars belief.

Understandably, given the circumstances, the cast could do little to fill out their roles. Gregory Yurisich has it in him to be an outstanding Pizarro, but he was left with too little straw for brick-making. He had been unwell and an announcement craving indulgence was made; he sang powerfully in the first act, and started to sound tired only towards the end.

Günther Misenhardt's inky bass was just right for Rocco, but most of his character was on the cutting-room floor. That Lynon Atkinson's Jaquino was so damp was possibly not his fault.

Admittedly, it is not easy to play Beethoven's opera-comique in so large a house: both Glyndebourne productions have demonstrated this. Conversely, Marzette, for instance, has little choice but to sing right out, which Judith

Howarth did with bright tone but inevitable lack of light and shade.

Gabriela Benackova, though, has the voice for Leonore in any house. The sound is consistently beautiful, plush, round and warm, and there is an athleticism to her technique fully equal to the near-superhuman demands Beethoven makes on her. But she is a placid performer: not for a moment could you believe that this woman was on a desperately dangerous mission driven onwards by both individual love and universal compassion—not that she has much encouragement in Dresen's *Fidelio*.

There was a hint of verismo to Thomas Sunnegardh's Florentine. This, you felt, was how a man might sing if he had been in solitary confinement for two years; you might not, however, want to spend £100 to listen to the result.

Jeffrey Tate chose sensible speeds for a "big house" *Fidelio*, and whipped up plenty of excitement as well as shapely phrasing from a responsive orchestra. The chorus, under Terry Edwards, was on excellent form. Musically, all was not lost.

RODNEY MILNES

One of the main problems is precisely one of the LP's own boasts: that of treating all members as professional musicians. Aged between 17 and 23, most of them are not. While guidance in the financial and legal aspects of professional life is doubtless invaluable, without better musical guidance—working, at the very least, with authoritative, experienced conductors—there will be no professional life.

The evening's soloist in Mozart's Piano Concerto No 9 was this year's BBC Young Musician of the Year, Frederick Kempf. His still essentially private, small-scale musicianship drowned in direction which provided him with no well-defined context.

The young members of the LPYO, many of them sensitive individual musicians, are clearly not the sole beneficiaries of this exercise. If they are not, however, made the primary beneficiaries, they might as well disband tomorrow. Audiences, after all, have a choice.

Much too young at art

Hilary Finch is not convinced by the first public concert of the new y-formed London Philharmonic Youth Orchestra

After a try-out with the LP proper, he was chosen to be music director, no less, of the LPYO. He will conduct both its forthcoming concerts in the spring. It is hardly surprising that, given his age and experience, little profundity of insight and considerable technical insecurity was on show.

What was surprising, though, was the middle-aged, lacklustre sound of his young orchestra.

Kodály's *Dances of Galánta* introduced some accomplished soloists, particularly Sarah Miller, principal clarinet, who later redeemed a crude and edgy performance

of Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony. But this was an extraordinarily colourless performance: ensemble and cueing were simply not safe enough to do anything but tiptoe interpretatively. The Tchaikovsky had more colour, but the timbre was badly blurred. The strings were hard put to pick up a single phrase with unanimity, and Gee seemed to have little understanding of either orchestral balance or the relationship of one tempo to another.

With youth orchestras, nationwide, playing as they have never played before, the LPYO will have to acquire considerably more *vorsprung* and *technik* if it is even to compete with the professionalism of its sponsor, let alone its peers.

ROCK: Dwight Yoakam at Hammersmith Odeon

Shaking up the country

In the five years since Dwight Yoakam last played Britain, there has been a revolution in country music. On the one hand, populist entertainers such as Garth Brooks and Billy Ray Cyrus have brought country to the heart of the pop mainstream, while on the other, nonconformists such as k.d. lang and Lyle Lovett have successfully taken a left-field approach to reach a more knowing rock audience.

Yoakam, who turns 38 this month, was around before any of them, and although he has thoroughly alienated the Nashville establishment, he remains the performer best equipped to translate the authentic country experience into terms that a modern audience, raised on rock, can relate to. His performance at Hammersmith was a tour de force, combining hard country swing with all the glamour and egotistical posturing of an upbeat rock 'n' roll show.

His entrance was more superstar than Dame Edna. Resplendent in a rhinestone-studded, cropped black jacket, skin-tight black leather trousers and the inevitable acoustic guitar and cowboy hat, he snaked on from the wings. With legs and pelvis slowly twisting like rubber bands, he somehow contrived to reach the microphone without moving his feet.

Backed by a compact five-piece band that incorporated the traditional textures of fiddle and (occasional) accordion along with a hard-hitting rhythm section and longstanding guitarist Pee Dee Pearson's deep southern twang, Yoakam pushed the set along at a brisk canter. Although his languid Kentucky drawl and an unwelcome surfeit of echo from the mixing board put paid to any hope of deciphering the words, his voice retained its marvellous nasal timbre.

Several times Yoakam's blatantly sexual gyrations and "white trash" hillbilly vocal mannerisms harked back to the memory of Elvis Presley, most notably during a romping take of "It Only Hurts When I Cry". But he went over



Yoakam: has alienated the Nashville establishment

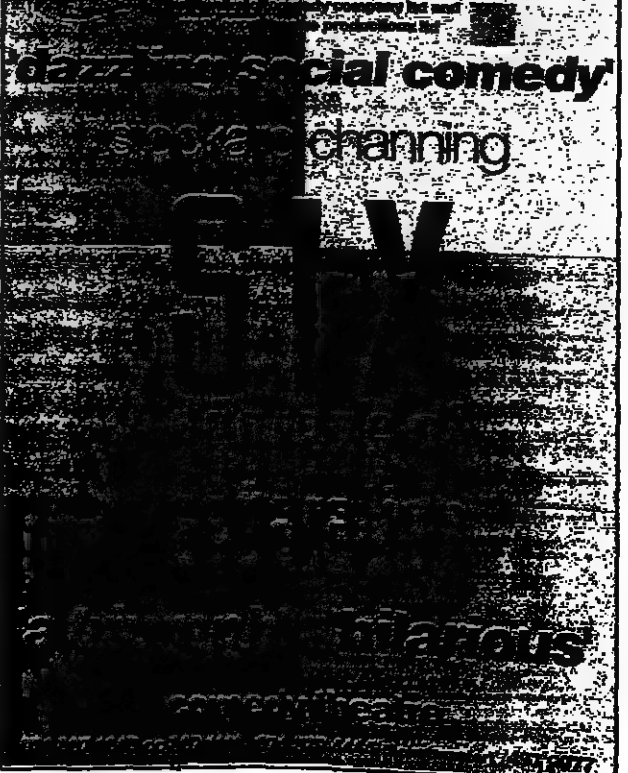
the top during a high-rolling version of "Little Sister", and, even as an encore, "Woody" was an irredeemably trash choice of song.

But then Yoakam has never set out to be tasteful, and such reservations paled beside the consummate professionalism and sheer exuberance of the overall show. Certainly when he hit his stride on muggles

such as "Streets of Bakersfield", "Honky Tonk Man" and "Guitars, Cadillacs", he was mean, moody and magnificent. The crowd, which was liberally sprinkled with rowdy Americans, reacted like extras in a rodeo scene, leaping about and waving their own hats in the air.

DAVID SINCLAIR

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An American in Germany

Hundreds of actresses are expected at Berlin's Theater am Kurfürstendamm later today to audition for the role of Marlene Dietrich in a musical about her life due to open in April of next year. Called *Where have all the flowers gone*, the play will feature 25 songs associated with Dietrich built around a book by the English writer Laurence Roman and will be directed by Terry Hands. Produced by Germany's leading theatre impresario, Friedrich Kurz, the show will run until "at least the year 2000".

Aspiring Marlenes will have no difficulty researching the role because, four months after her death in Paris, Berlin abounds with tributes to Dietrich. Some of the city's top performers are staging a recital of songs and readings in her honour on Saturday, an exhibition in the East Berlin suburb of Weissensee focuses on her early film career in Berlin, and she even makes a brief appearance in the controversial "Ufa Revue" about showbusiness in Hitler's Germany.

Saturday's tribute, called "My name is Marlene Dietrich...", was first conceived by Helmut Baumann, artistic director of the Theater des Westens, as a civic memorial service to coincide with Dietrich's funeral in Berlin in May. He maintains that the event was cancelled because of a lack of organisation and an unwillingness on the part of official bodies to pay for it. But he admits that a series of letters to Berlin newspapers condemning Dietrich as a woman who turned her back on her country, wore the uniform of the enemy and made her career in the United States may have given the impression that the civic authorities were bowing to public pressure in cancelling the event.

Baumann has incorporated some of these anti-Marlene letters into Saturday's tribute, saying these protests are part of the nature of the relationship between the star and her country. But he insists that there is no widespread hostility towards Dietrich in Germany and that nobody of any consequence feels any resentment about her war record. He is probably right, although the awkwardness surrounding her funeral in Berlin revived memories of her visit to the city in 1960 when she was met by protesters carrying placards reading "Marlene go home" and "Traitor to the Fatherland".

Dietrich herself often described it as a love-hate relationship: "They are angry with me firstly because I went to the United States, secondly

Theatres in Berlin abound with tributes to Marlene Dietrich, reports Denis Staunton

because I didn't come back after the war and thirdly because I came back."

But Dietrich's own personality may have been the source of much of the confusion between herself and her country. The feminist writer Alice Schwarzer believes that the title of one of Dietrich's best-known songs, "Ich weiss nicht zu wem ich gehöre" (I don't know whom I belong to), could serve as the leitmotif for her life. "She never wanted to decide: between Germany and France, between trousers and skirts, between men and women, between her husband (whom she never divorced) and her lovers," Schwarzer says.

In the same way, Germany could

never decide how it ought to view her — as a Berliner who made good in Hollywood, as a cosmopolitan film star, as a woman who fought with the enemy or, as one newspaper put it when she died, "our conscience on two long legs". Her own ambiguity seemed to encourage the public to project onto her any image they chose.

She put this ambiguity to creative use in her two post-war "German" films, Billy Wilder's *A Foreign Affair*, in which she played a Nazi nightclub singer, and Stanley Kramer's *Judgment at Nuremberg*, where she took on the role of a German general's widow. She said: "Had I been in Germany during the Nazi years, either development would have been possible — the negative or the positive. That's why I play both types. They reflect the German destiny."

Although Dietrich is unmistakably German to an English-speak-

ing audience, she was not thought of in her own country as an especially German actress, partly because most of her best-known films were made in English and, with the exception of *Der Blaue Engel*, her earlier work is almost unknown.

The exhibition, "Marlene Dietrich: from Weissensee to Hollywood", is an attempt to reclaim Dietrich for Berlin, documenting the films she made in the city in the 1920s, most of which she chose to forget later. It also focuses on her Prussian upbringing and her relationship with her family and includes poignant photographs of Dietrich's meeting with her mother at Berlin's Tempelhof Airport in 1945. Frau Dietrich apparently shared her daughter's disdain for her fellow Germans during the war and, as the bombs fell on Berlin, complained: "How awful it would be to be buried with all these fools."

From the moment they came to power, the Nazis had tried to two Dietrich back to Germany, declaring that it was inappropriate for Germany's greatest star to live abroad and to perform in a foreign language.

When she took out American citizenship in 1937, the Nazis blamed the corrupting influence of "the Jews of Hollywood" but Goebbels, obsessed by Hollywood's superiority over Germany's own Ufa Studios, felt her loss keenly. Ufa lost most of its best talents during the 1930s, leaving a "B Team" led by the Swedish diva Zarah Leander to churn out the harmless romances and light comedies favoured by Nazi cultural policy. Even Leander deserted Ufa in 1943 after a bomb exploded in her garden.

fleeing to Sweden and confessing that she had been "a political idiot". The Theater des Westens would have us believe that Ufa between 1933 and 1945 represented a golden age for German show-business and it has built a "Ufa Revue" around the catchier songs of the period. It is a highly accomplished, slickly staged show, hugely popular with the public, but it has been condemned by critics as a glorification of the culture of the Third Reich. Helmut Baumann hotly denies such charges, insisting that most of the people who do not like the show are over 60, old enough to remember the Third Reich. "They don't want to be reminded of it and they don't like the way we play with history."

Amid the giant swastikas and elegant SS officers which decorate the stage of the Ufa Revue, a Marlene Dietrich lookalike makes a brief appearance singing "Lili



A love-hate relationship: the Germans could never decide how to view Marlene Dietrich

"Marlene" dressed in the uniform of the US army. It is an arresting moment, a reminder, in the words of a wreath at Dietrich's funeral, of "the other Germany" which she represented.

Despite her famous remark at the end of the second world war, "Germany — never again", Dietrich welcomed German reunification

saying, "I hope so much it's not just a unification on paper but in their hearts too."

Four months after her death, German hearts have softened towards Dietrich. In the words of Baumann: "Her passing has made us conscious of what she was to us and we want to show it now."

Marlene Dietrich: from Weissensee to

Hollywood is at the Stadtschlossliches Museum Weissensee until the end of November.

Mein Name ist Marlene Dietrich... is at the Deutsches Theater on Saturday at 11.00am. Bombesessioning — Els Ufa Revue is at the Theater des Westens every night at 8. Sag mir wo die Blumen sind opens at Theater am Kurfürstendamm on April 7, 1993.

OPERA: The recent premiere in Germany of part two of Jan Fabre's Troubleyn trilogy reveals a new drama and passion in his work

Eagle-eyed vision majestically scribbled

Jan Fabre once handed revolvers to four American critics and told them to shoot him if they so hated his work. Many have subsequently regretted their rare failure of critical nerve. Fabre is probably the most reviled man in contemporary theatre. A stocky, 34-year-old Belgian, he has been accused of being a crypto-fascist, an anarchist, a bully and a fraud.

Yet two weeks ago the audience of the Kassel Staatstheater wore on their feet in acclaim for the world premiere of his latest production, a full-scale opera of grandiose ambitions and a typically obtuse title: *Silent Screams, Difficult Dreams*.

These who only know of Fabre through his notoriety, such as his eight-hour spectacle *The Power of Theatrical Madness* that caused fist-fights, demonstrations and a near riot when presented at the Albert Hall, might be surprised, even pleasantly, by the tenor and intention of his latest work.

The opera, which brought the contemporary art show *Documenta IX* to a fitting close, was in fact the second part of Fabre's planned tri-

logy, given the overall name of *The Minds of Helena Troubleyn*. The first part, entitled *Das Glas im Kopf wird vom Glas* (roughly translated as "The Glass Inside the Head Was Glass"), was premiered in his hometown, Antwerp, in 1990, and was met with critical acclaim.

Few have doubted Fabre's visual genius. He works almost exclusively with the humble blue Bic Biro, creating silken waterfalls of an incredible sure hue, and is also a lighting designer and choreographer with an innate sense of contemporary style.

But the essential motor of his aesthetic is systematic repetition: gestures and acts are repeated again and again until they acquire their full symbolic weight. This can be both hypnotically rewarding and numbingly tedious. Most of his previous works operated to the monotonous arpeggios of synthesizer doodling.

Fabre views the Helena Troubleyn trilogy as deliberately Wagnerian in scale and mythic resonance, so it is appropriate, and fortunate, that on this occasion he recruited the services of a real composer, rather than some



Mystical moments: Torgun Birkeland as Helena in *Silent Screams, Difficult Dreams*

modish young minimalist. Both Troubleyn operas have been composed by Eugeniusz Knapik, a Polish composer who studied with Messiaen and Gorecki, the cult Polish revisionist. Knapik has pro-

duced scores for Fabre that are not only dramatically convincing, but also emotional if not spiritual — dimensions that have been notably missing from Fabre's range so far. If the score borders on late

Romantic pastiche, a hint of Mahler, a dash of Schoenberg and a topping of Lisztianism, it is still a notable achievement, and matches fully the power of Fabre's vision.

The libretto, by Fabre, is

rather less rewarding, a mysterious mélange of folk tales and magic motifs, a sort of crazed personal mythology. The central theme of the trilogy is apparently represented by the image of an eagle killed by an arrow made from his own feathers. The whole drama seems to take place in the dreams of Helena, whose personality is split into varied parts and who is clearly undergoing some sort of breakdown.

But of course none of this really matters, because Fabre and Knapik have fashioned something so majestic, so perverse and decadently roccoco, that the images and the music, and their sumptuous conjunction, provide more than enough in the way of immediate satisfaction.

Silent Screams begins with the conductor of the Kassel orchestra, Frederic Chaslin, talking the customary bow, but instead of getting an overture the audience waits in tense silence until, with flapping and cracking overhead, a giant eagle flies down across the auditorium to land on the shoulders of the hero, "The Boy with the Moon and Stars on his Head", sung with convincing gravitas by Mark

Oldfield. It is sufficiently remarkable that both he and Torgun Birkeland, playing Helena, could perform among the rigorous physical tasks set them by Fabre, such as climbing on to a tower of white plates to sing.

The drama is played out against Fabre's usual bright-blue silk scheme, the backcloth and costumes laboriously scribbled over with Bic. Fabre wishes to capture the mysterious quality of the first light of day and the effect is indeed achingly romantic. Fabre terms his performers "warriors of beauty" and the physical graces of the female dancers are hardly accidental, nor is the strong erotic undertone. Black bikinis and muscular nudity are Fabre's forte, and to see his troupe of scantily clad women crawling face down across the stage, or climbing into heavy armour, is undeniably, enjoyably provocative.

With the Troubleyn trilogy, Fabre and Knapik are hoping to prove there is a way forward from the so-called "designer opera". Fabre, modest to the last, would like to see Bayreuth stage the trilogy's final part.

ADRIAN DANNATT

● **AMSTERDAM:** Felix Vallotton (1865-1925): More than 50 prints and 100 drawings are on show in this retrospective of the Swiss symbolist. A fringe member of the Gauguin-inspired "Nabis" group, Vallotton's works, although decorative, are tinged with sarcasm and hint at violence and forbidden passions.

Rijksmuseum Vincent van Gogh, Paulus Potterstraat 7 (010 31 20 570 5200). Until Nov 1.

● **ANTWERP:** De Vlaamse Opera continues its Puccini cycle with *Turandot*. In this production, directed by Robert Carsen, the complete finale is used as it was composed by Franco Alfano based on Puccini's notes. The princess, who has her suitors beheaded, is played by Johanna Meier and Calaf, the unknown suitor who manages to subdue her, is played by Stefano Algieri. Silvio Varviso conducts. De Vlaamse Opera, Van Ertbornstraat 8 (010 32 3233 6808). Oct 6, 9, 11, 14, 17, 20, 22, 25.

● **COLOGNE:** More than 350 works of Flemish art from 1550 to 1650 have been brought together from a variety of prestige sources, including The Hermitage in St Petersburg and the Prado in Madrid, to form a show *From Bruegel to Rubens*. Central to the exhibition are works by van Dyck, Jordaens and Rubens, surrounded by the works of other baroque masters including Francken, Floris and of course Bruegel. Wallraf-Richartz-Museum, Bischofsgartenstrasse 1 (010 49 22 1221 2382). Until November 22.

● **PARIS:** The Frankfurt Ballet under the American choreographer William Forsythe takes up residency at the Châtelet next month. Audiences will have an opportunity to see two of Forsythe's most recent works premiered earlier this year, *Herman Schmerman* and *As a garden in this setting*, together with his 1987 piece, *New Sleep*. Théâtre du Châtelet, 2 rue Edouard Colonne (010 331 40282840). Oct 21, 22, 24, 26-28, 7.30pm, mat Oct 25, 3pm.

● **PARIS:** Chekhov's play *The Cherry Orchard (La Cerisaie)* will be directed by Stéphane Braunschweig for the Centre Dramatique National de Gennevilliers next month. A former student of Antoine Vitez, Braunschweig, who is not yet 30, is noted for the stark intensity of his productions, especially those of his own company Theatre Machine. Théâtre de Gennevilliers, 41 avenue des Grésillons, Gennevilliers, Paris (010 331 47932630). Until Oct 18.

● **STOCKHOLM:** A Baltic Music Festival looks at the musical life of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania inside the Nordic countries. There are concerts by the National Philharmonic of Lithuania (Oct 21), the Estonian SO (Oct 22), and the Riga SO (Oct 24). Stockholm Concert Hall Foundation, PO Box 7083, S-103 87 Stockholm (010 46 8 221800). Oct 19-25.

● **STRASBOURG:** The focus of a three-week contemporary music festival is on the little-known composer Giacinto Scelsi, one of the post-war group of Italian composers, and the British composer Sir Michael Tippett whose international reputation has risen greatly in recent years; much of their work is heard in France for the first time at this festival. The programme also offers the French premieres of works by Benedict Mason, Harrison Birtwistle, Pascal Dusapin, Heiner Goebbels, James MacMillan and Magnus Lindberg.

Information and Reservations: (010 33 88521010). Until Oct 10.

KARI KNIGHT

Across the Channel, to see the best of British

FILM: Richard Gilbert reports from Dinard in northern France where a remarkable festival pays tribute to the British cinema, past and present

festivals dedicated to the national cinema of a neighbour. For four days last week the third annual Dinard Festival du Film Britannique attracted a greater concentration of British directors, producers, actors and screenwriters than can normally be found in any single location in Britain. Dinard is doing for independent British cinema what Deauville further up the French coast achieved for American blockbusters a little earlier in the month. But as one French producer remarked: "Deauville and Cannes are film hypermarkets: Dinard is a classy delicatessen."

Dinard and British films form a natural partnership. The town's sheltered beaches and gentle climate attracted British aristocracy from the turn of the century when it was dubbed la

ville des anglais because of the fine houses built by wealthy visitors from across the sea.

The irony of a French town paying tribute to British cinema, past and present, was not lost on the guests or the thousands of locals who crowded into Dinard's cinemas to see the 40 films being projected. One French critic, impressed with the vigour of the seven new films in the main competition, admitted that the notorious damning words of François Truffaut some years ago — "There is a certain incompatibility between the terms 'cinéma' and 'Britain' —

would have to be revised. Films like Sally Potter's risk-taking version of Virginia Woolf's *Orlando* (involving French, Dutch and Russian co-production), Stephen Gyllen-

haal's adaptation of Graham Swift's prize-winning novel *Waterland* and Derek Jarman's interpretation of Marlowe's *Edward II* demonstrated how new British filmmakers are prepared to experiment and move away from the naturalism and realism that prompted Truffaut's original snub.

After a tussle, the Anglo-French jury awarded the Grand

Prix to *Edward II* (not yet seen in France although a prize-winner already at Venice). The Prix du Public, chosen by local Dinard cinemagoers, selected the sumptuous but self-indulgent *Orlando*, confounding British guests who expected Neil Jordan's taut and unpredictable new thriller, *The Crying Game*, to be the popular choice. Tilda Swinton, star of both *Edward II* and *Orlando*, had therefore a remarkable double success at the festival, and she was at Dinard to see the two films acclaimed.

The French were introduced to new aspects of British cinema with a selection of films made by black directors under the ironic umbrella title of "I'm British But..." accompanied by a forum on ethnic cinema.

The compact scale of Dinard enabled film-makers, distribu-

tors and writers to meet formally and informally to exchange ideas and proposals. Two years ago in Dinard a British filmmaker met a French producer over platefuls of local oysters, and a European co-production deal for a script called *Prague* was set up by the time coffee arrived. Appropriately, that film, conceived in Dinard, was shown at this year's festival.

New films were supported by retrospectives on Peter O'Toole, Sir Peter Ustinov and veteran Ealing comedy producer Michael Relph. While jury-member Juliet Stevenson commented that seeing four new films in a day at Dinard made her appreciate the qualities of new British cinema, fellow juror Jos Ackland had reservations about the repetitive themes of sexual identity in too many of the films: "It's a curious reflection of contemporary Britain. Where are today's big screenplays and the directors who can leave their signature on every frame?"



Grand award: Tilda Swinton in *Edward II*

In deadly earnest — Millais's *Ophelia*: the death of a beautiful woman, wrote Edgar Allan Poe, is unquestionably the most poetical topic in the world

Death is a fatal attraction

When advertising agencies cast television and poster commercials for private health insurance, they always choose to show a woman in a hospital bed or undergoing the latest in high-technology probing. This is odd, because many families only subscribe to private health treatment for the male breadwinner — an insurance policy against loss of income. But the agencies' research showed that men cannot bear the thought of themselves as ill, with the implication of loss of power and potency.

The cover of Elisabeth Bronfen's book, *Over Her Dead Body: Death, femininity and the aesthetic*, is decorated with a supine woman, clearly gone from this world, with a demon perched on her chest. Dead women, Ms Bronfen says, are an icon of our culture, quoting Edgar Allan Poe who wrote, in 1846, that "the death of a beautiful woman is, unquestionably, the most poetical topic in the world".

Think about the representation of women and death in art for a moment and the images crowd in: the Lady of Shallot depicted in Tennyson's poem and by Elizabeth Siddall, wife of the artist Rossetti, in the painting; and Rossetti's disfiguring of his wife's body when he wanted to retrieve the poems he had buried with her. Millais's *Ophelia*: the hanging of the heroine in *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*; Dante descending into hell to reclaim Beatrice; the suicides of Madame Bovary and Clarissa (and the villain Lovelace's attempt to steal the latter's corpse and embalm it so he will possess her forever — a dead woman as a permanent object of desire); the death of Little Nell; Snow White, to all intents dead in her crystal casket; the poet Sylvia Plath whose death has become an industry for literary biography. And above all, Marilyn Monroe, whose passing only served to

The cultural silence hanging over the iconography of dead women has been ended by a new book, Linda Grant reports

heighten our fantasies since once she was dead, Ms Bronfen argues, she could act as a cipher from which we can spin ever new narratives.

She was, Ms Bronfen says, "in ecstasies" when she saw the opening scenes of David Lynch's TV series *Twin Peaks*, which begins with the discovery of the corpse of Laura Palmer, around which the entire 36 episodes revolve. The movie version failed, she believes, "because the public aren't interested in the live Laura Palmer". As her work progressed she found so many examples of the aestheticisation of dead women and their eroticisation — removing from them the possibility of feeling or desire so they become insensate objects of male fantasy — that she was amazed nobody had written on the subject before. In contrast, images of women as killers with guns (as in films such as *Thelma and Louise*) are regarded as tremendously dangerous.

Ms Bronfen is in London to address a two-day seminar on death being held at the Institute of Contemporary Arts this weekend. The subject faces a similar taboo in our century to the one that sex suffered in the last. In person Ms Bronfen is neither ethereal nor sinister, with no evidence of morbid preoccupations such as those of the

girl in *Huckleberry Finn* who was forever writing poems about funerals.

Her long black hair is ever so slightly Cruella De Vil or the lady from the Addams family, but her interest in death has a more serious and personal context. Her father, an American Jew, went to Germany at the end of the second

World War to the horror of her friends in the United States. She decided to return to Germany to do her doctoral work, a country which for many American Jews is no more than the site of one vast death camp.

She decided to write the book ten years ago and in that time the motivation changed from the will of a young woman to be heard to a



Fantasy: Sleeping Beauty, a symbol of desire in death

growing realisation that she had stumbled on an important silence in contemporary culture. "Nobody had worked in this field," she says. "Death is all we have in common with each other, yet there's such a void in the attempt to theorise it. Mortality doesn't exist as a critical concept, but it is as important as desire. It disturbs our social and personal orders and we have to recuperate something from that."

In the book she argues that the aesthetic representation of death lets us repress our fear of its reality. By choosing beautiful women to stand in for death we make it acceptable. People argue, she says, that there are as many images of dead men as there are of women. She disagrees. Men are generally depicted as dead in battle, the fallen hero; the painting of Nelson surrounded by his grieving crew represents the heroic, the glory and the sorrow and the pity of war.

The other often-cited image is of

Christ, but nobody who looks at a crucifixion scene sees a dead body. The crucifixion depicts not death but suffering, transcendence, the promise of an afterlife and redemption.

The one really potent depiction of a dead man is President Kennedy, who, like Marilyn Monroe, has been the object of our projected fantasies; but in the case of Kennedy, Ms Bronfen argues, what we see is the end of an era, the shattering of dreams. He died as a statesman and a father, the victim of a terrible moment of chance and history, whereas Monroe has been reconstituted as the eternal victim who had to die because she was so beautiful. There are now T-shirts, Ms Bronfen says, emblazoned with the photograph taken of the star after she had been discovered dead.

As an associate professor of English at Munich University, Ms Bronfen is close to the source of the central death of the 20th century, the concentration camp inmates whose end was so compassionately and amorally recorded by the Nazis. She ultimately backed away from discussion of their depiction in the book. They seem to be the truly genderless deaths, she agrees, "and we still feel a shame and a guilt, as if it were indecent to talk about it".

However, AIDS may be transforming the traditional aesthetic. The famous photograph of an AIDS victim moments before his death which Benetton wanted to use in its advertising bore all the hallmarks of a traditional *piet * — the paintings in which Mary cradles the body of her dead son. But with AIDS there is no resurrection, no hope: "We're seeing images of men we've never seen before," Ms Bronfen says. "The reduction of the body to bones, the ugliness shows man defeated."

● *Over Her Dead Body* is published by Manchester University Press, priced £14.95, on October 1.

Gagged by a ring of guns

Shulamit Aloni, Israel's volatile education minister, has been put under armed guard for her own protection

At first glance it is impossible to equate Shulamit Aloni's kindly features with the venomous descriptions of the harri-dan whom many Israelis have grown to hate. In spite of the blonde curls, blue eyes and ubiquitous beaded necklace, Mrs Aloni, a lifelong civil-rights campaigner and now the country's education minister, would probably rank alongside Yasser Arafat and Saddam Hussein in an Israeli popularity contest.

The source of controversy is Mrs Aloni's continued feuding with the country's religious establishment, which depends on the education ministry to maintain funding for Jewish schools and seminaries. In the eyes of the rabbis, the final straw came last week when she ridiculed the biblical account of the creation of man and lamented the fact that Darwinian theory was not taught. "Man has already gone to the moon, while here we still tell our children the world was created in six days," she said.

Even Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who appointed her in July, admitted last week that most of his time recently has been spent as a "fireman" putting out the flames of controversy fuelled by Mrs Aloni's outbursts against the country's ultra-orthodox community and the right-wing nationalists.

This week Mrs Aloni was under armed guard at her home north of Tel Aviv, following death threats from irate countrymen. She is experiencing growing criticism from her supporters and cabinet colleagues, who have effectively forbidden her from making any public pronouncements.

By Western standards Mrs Aloni's views would be regarded as merely liberal, but in the polarised and male-dominated world of Israeli politics she is reviled as a dangerous fifth columnist.

The odds were stacked against Mrs Aloni, aged 63, a former lawyer and the leader of the left-wing Meretz party and the champion of Israel's liberal secularists, even before she took up her first cabinet post.

The level of hatred was summed up by Rabbi Shmuel Deutsch, who likened the extermination of one million Jewish children by the Nazis to Mrs Aloni's secularist education programme which aims to curb religious teaching in schools and give a more rounded education. "Sometimes it is worse to make a sinner out of a child than to kill him," he wrote in the Orthodox newspaper, *Yated Neuman*.

True to form, Mrs Aloni has not been deterred from taking on Israel's institutions, one after the

other. Her first assault was against teachers, who she accused of "moral slackness" for their threatened industrial action. She then questioned the practice of sending teenage Israeli pupils to visit Nazi death camps in Poland, arguing that Israeli youth was being indoctrinated.

Although these remarks were permissible for an education minister, the political tempo was raised further when she delved into the area of defence and foreign policy. First, she compared undercover units of the Israel Defence Force sent to apprehend Palestinian gunmen with "executioners". Then she repeated her long-held belief that the occupied Golan Heights should be returned in their entirety to Syria, remarks published while the territory's future was being negotiated at the Washington peace talks.

In most Western countries controversial comments on religious education could easily be overlooked, but not in Israel where the religious parties can still make or break a government, a point brought home to Mr Rabin last week when the ultra-orthodox Shas party with six Knesset members threatened to quit the government and reduce its majority to one seat unless Mrs Aloni was removed.

The Israeli leader had his nose further put out of joint when she told an Israeli newspaper in her most recent interview that he was prepared to withdraw from all of the Golan Heights, a comment which contradicted his stated policy of limited territorial concessions.

Last Sunday, in response to the Shas party threat, Mrs Aloni was called to a meeting with Mr Rabin and other Meretz ministers. She emerged with her portfolio intact, for the time being at least. However she has been served notice that she must make a break with her two decades as a strident critic of the establishment.

"Her statements are no different than they were in opposition, but today journalists are around her all the time and she must understand that she has to change her approach and avoid saying things which anger people," Avraham Poraz, a fellow Meretz member of the Knesset, said.

Although she appeared chastised after her meeting, Mrs Aloni is still only half-repentant. "I am a woman who arouses controversy," she said in her last interview before her self-imposed vow of silence. "I want to stir things. I opened the windows and things are not only coming in but also going out."

RICHARD BEESTON

No joke: Shulamit Aloni, as caricatured in *The Jerusalem Post*

Farewell, the First Lady of Islington

For years Margaret Hodge has been the target of the tabloids — has she any regrets now she is leaving Labour's 'cutting edge'?



Going, going: Margaret Hodge, once the scourge of capitalism, will work for Price Waterhouse

Patrician government has not, traditionally, been associated with the extremes of politics. Its practitioners, having lofty values, tend to look down gently, if firmly, from on high and to dispense their justice with a regard both to their own origins and to the needs of the masses.

Margaret Hodge, who last week confirmed that she is about to resign as leader of Islington Borough Council, is, curiously, no exception. For nearly 20 years, she has been associated with the far left of the Labour party, and as commissar of the media-proclaimed Socialist Republic of Islington in the early 1980s was widely seen as among the more deranged members of the Bennite Loony Left.

And yet — and here's the rub — Mrs Hodge never seriously intended to storm the Winter Palace. A twin-set and pearls woman, without the pearls, all she ever hoped to do was to make a point and improve the "life chances" of the people.

Today Mrs Hodge, now 48, has hitched her handwagon to a new gravy train and moved on. From November, she will work four days a week for Price Waterhouse — the accountancy firm that helped regulate the affairs of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International — and the one remaining day for the Institute of Public Policy Research, hoping to bring "a left-wing perspective" to developments in Eastern Europe. "I have," she says, "a tremendous amount of experience of managing change."

As ever, she will not be short of cash. Her father, the late Hans Oppenheimer, a Jewish refugee who made a fortune in the steel industry before nationalisation, always ensured she was well-provided for, and both her husbands have been Oxford-educated professionals. She is aware of the obvious

irony here but in classic patrician manner justifies her wealth as a liberating factor that allows her to devote herself to the service of others. "It has made it easy for me to pursue politics. It has made it more like voluntary work." Mention of Elizabeth Fry, the great prison reformer, as a possible precursor, causes her to shake her head. "I am not like those 19th century philanthropists, acting out of a sense of duty. I act out of a sense of ideology," she says.

Had Neil Kinnock won the general election, Mrs Hodge would now be a member of the House of Lords and a government minister, helping to determine the shape of local government. Although approached by "umpteen" constituencies to stand for the Commons, she preferred to opt for the unelected second chamber. Why? "Children (she has four) 'I have worked 60-70-hour weeks for long enough. Now it's their turn to see me'."

Notwithstanding this increased familial pull, Mother Hodge this week will be addressing fringe meetings at the Labour party conference in Blackpool, and she will be looking ahead, not back, to the need to construct a sound regional structure in Britain, capable of doing business in the new Europe. Like Ion Iliescu, the former-communist prime minister of Romania, she is firmly in the camp that says, yes, we made mistakes in the past, but let us not waste time raking over the coals when there is hard work to be done.

What, though, of John Smith, the newly-elected leader of her party. Does he, as he embarks on the long-haul of removing John Major from Downing Street, enjoy

her support? She stiffens. "Smith is an exquisite Commons performer. But we do still need" — she searches for the requisite phrase — "a period of terribly radical change."

Oh dear. Are the leopardess's spots showing through? Is the Loony Left now our among us, stuck with Care in the Community, and likely to strike at any moment against the Major-Lamont conspiracy? She considers Islington today — still among the poorest boroughs

in the country, still presenting one of the most striking contrasts between wealth and poverty. "Islington now is at the cutting edge of Labour policy on the left. Drawing on our experience, we can help Labour form its national policies. Reforms, though, must be radical. Things we did then (in the 1980s) which were derided are widely adopted now." She lists them: work-place nurseries, ethnic monitoring, contract compliance, ex-

tended care for the under-fives. "If you're at the radical edge, it's always very threatening. How can you be the party of change and still bring the people on to support this change?"

Sitting in the drawing room of her magnificent, four-storey Georgian house, its mantelpiece surmounted by a delicate pub mirror spelling out the legend "Saloon Bar", Mrs Hodge reflects, reluctantly, on past errors. "We were

cocky and confident," she confesses. "Did we heighten racism and make things worse? I don't know. I worry about that now. With our stand on gender awareness, did we alienate women from public life?" Angst briefly fills the room, then disperses. She turns cheerfully to the battles to come. "This country has got to invest in training, education and R&D (research and development). Labour got it right before the election. All these things. Major is cutting. It's calamitous. She pauses, before caring on. "I would not be surprised to see Keynesianism re-emerge, but Labour remains too centralised in its thinking to grasp the initiative. The party must act to end its Stalinist centralism and paternalism."

She admits that Labour in the 1980s was "a shambles". The fact that it was the time of her own apotheosis does not escape her, but, as with the government after the ERM debacle, there is no apology, only regrets. "We went wrong. We believed we could achieve change through resolutions without bringing the people with us. We went wrong in kidding ourselves that the people believed in the services we were seeking to provide. But we still got things done."

She recalls how, as chair of housing in the 1970s, she helped raise the number of dwellings rehabilitated each year from 12 to 1,600 and how the council's opposition to subsequent imposed cuts drew thousands of its supporters onto the streets. When Islington stood firm against rate-capping in the 1980s support in the borough was lukewarm. "Tenants had bad experiences of us as landlords. We were [what else?] paternalistic —

always concerned about how much we were spending, not how much good we were producing."

A decade on, Islington is experiencing further cuts. Neighbourhood officers (housing officials to you) are being "sashed". The first library has been closed. Initiatives in the race and gender fields are being stifled. Mrs Hodge is appalled.

She worries that, despite her best efforts, racism is on the increase. "It is one of the horrors of our society as we move towards the end of the century. Critics say, 'why close a library when you could shut down a black group?' She has no answer but faith — faith and ideology."

Recently, the tabloids have mocked Mrs Hodge for sending her youngest daughter to a school, albeit state-run, outside the borough. She argues that they live close to the school, in Camden, and that attendance there is a family tradition. But the pops, their noses sniffing the air for the slightest whiff of hypocrisy, will not relent.

As our interview comes to its end, a woman in the house opposite hangs out an enormous red blanket to dry in the September sunshine. It seems an odd act — almost revolutionary in leafy Richmond Crescent — but the house, it turns out, was bought by the council several years back and converted into flats, "with rents that ordinary people can afford". This is Hodgeism in action. She would like to see more of it, with neighbourhood councils controlling their own budgets, almost street by street. She escorts me to the door and opens an immediate conversation with passing neighbours, in this case resolutely middle class. The last I hear of her is her laughter, winging its way good-heartedly down the avenue between the Valves and the trees.

WALTER ELLIS

The legislation to allow leaseholders to buy their freeholds is inadequate, Charles Boston says

On the flaw of the house

Landlords and tenants will lobby MPs fiercely now that the consultation period on proposed leasehold reforms has ended. The reforms are to be presented to Parliament in November as part of the housing, land and urban development bill. These reforms, extending the right to "enfranchise" — the right to buy the freehold — have already been fiercely criticised by both groups.

On the tenants' side, groups such as the Enfranchisement League and the Leasehold Enfranchisement Association, although generally supporting the proposals, regard various aspects as inequitable. The landlords, represented by the large family estates, object on the grounds on which they opposed the Leasehold Reform Act that it constitutes a violation of the sovereignty of private ownership, which is not only enshrined in our (albeit unwritten) constitution, but is also specifically provided for in the European Convention of Human Rights and Civil Liberties, to which the British government is a signatory.

The rules regarding eligibility are the focus of criticism. The first rule, that at least 90 per cent of the floor area must be residential, was created to exclude commercial tenants from being able to take action. However, under existing case law, a tenant of a shop with an upper part can be eligible although the residential floor area may be less than 50 per cent. It is therefore argued by the tenants' lobby that this would be a regressive provision and contrary to the spirit of the legislation, which, it is supposed, is designed to make enfranchisement more, and not less, available.

The second rule is that the lease originally granted must be for a term exceeding 21 years, a provision which is generally accepted by tenants and landlords alike.

The third rule is that the ground rent must be less than two-thirds of the rateable value if the lease was granted before April 1, 1990, or must be less than £1,000 in Greater London or £250 elsewhere if it was granted on or after April 1, 1990, or later. This is to avoid claims being made by people who are renting property rather than those who have bought a lease. Since it is unheard of to let residential property for more than two years at a time, the 21-year rule effectively makes this provision unnecessary.

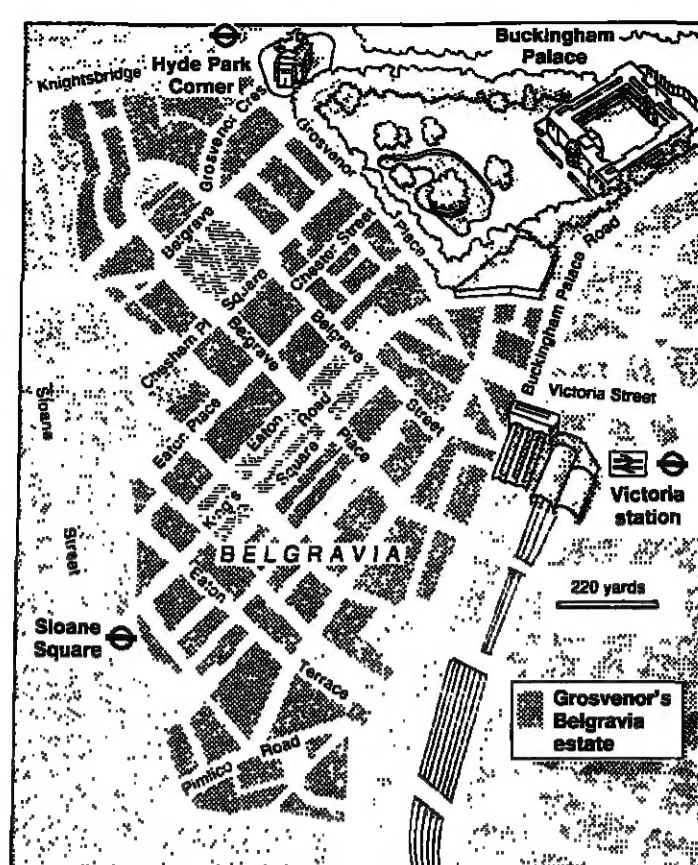


Charles Boston: unfairness

If there is concern to prevent tenants who are renting from qualifying, the logical approach would be to compare the rent agreed at the date of the grant of the lease with the full open-market rental value of the property at the same time. It is illogical to determine whether a rent is an open-market rent or a ground rent by reference to the rateable value, which is determined at a completely different time.

To ensure consistency, all rateable values relate to one point in time, which, until they were abolished in April 1990, was April 1, 1973. In the period between April 1973 and April 1990 there was enormous inflation in property values and landlords took advantage of this in seeking higher ground rents consistent with the rise in capital values. As a result, a lease of a house granted in 1973 might have a ground rent of £700 a year, whereas if the neighbouring house had a lease granted in 1988, it might have a ground rent of £1,200 a year. Both houses may have rateable values of £1,600 but, despite this, the lease granted in 1973 would qualify and the lease granted in 1988 would not. That sort of inequity is contrary to the principal aims of this law.

There is also the provision for leases granted after April 1, 1990, whereby a ground rent of £1,000 or more in Greater London (£250 elsewhere) will disbar a tenant from taking action. The criticism of this is simply that this new law is intended to bring into qualification



those houses which are presently excluded because they exceed the value limitations. The trouble is that most leases of these higher bracket houses granted after April 1, 1990 have ground rents considerably in excess of £1,000 a year, so the new law will not make any difference to them at all.

It is illogical to determine whether a rent is an open-market rent or a ground rent by reference to the rateable value

The last important contentious issue relates to the method of determining the enfranchisement price. The contention relates to the apportionment of what is known as "marriage value". This is the extra value which either landlord or tenant would obtain if they were to buy the other's interest. Property is

rarely equal to the sum of its interests and the highest value is invariably for the freehold with vacant possession. The proposals are that the tenant should pay "at least" 50 per cent of the marriage value. The more logical approach would be to say that any marriage value should be shared in the proportion of the landlord's current interest to the tenant's current interest.

Whatever anyone may argue about these specific provisions it is clear that the new law will do nothing to overcome the two main deficiencies of the existing law. These are firstly that it is extremely complicated and secondly that it is arbitrarily discriminatory. Those who presently qualify under either the original provisions of the Leasehold Reform Act 1967 or under the provisions introduced in the Housing Act 1974 will gain nothing under the

new law, which will merely add to the confusion and the inequity by adding a new category of eligible claimants with a new set of rules applying to them.

At the moment there are very few valuation surveys who fully understand the existing provisions. The *Estates Gazette*, which lists every firm of valuers and surveyors in the United Kingdom, has precisely one firm that puts its name forward as a specialist in Leasehold Reform Act enquiries.

In this context it is not surprising that many claimants are unable to obtain good quality advice, and often agree to high a figure rather than take the matter to the Leasehold Valuation Tribunal. This was set up a decade ago to make things easier than a reference to the more formal Lands Tribunal.

Unfortunately, it has failed to achieve its objective as it is still viewed as an intimidating or deal and, unlike the Lands Tribunal, it does not have jurisdiction over costs, so that even if the cause of the reference is due to unreasonable behaviour by the other side, the side that has been reasonable will still end up paying some costs.

One of the difficulties with this area of the law is that there is what Lord Denning once described as "an inequality of bargaining power". The Grosvenor Estate, for example, is so large that, if it were a publicly quoted company, by asset value it would be the eighth largest company in the UK. It owns the Belgrave estate, a large part of Mayfair and has other estates around the country. If there is a precedent at stake, most of the big private estates have both the financial muscle and the incentive to take an action as far as is necessary.

The new legislation must address this issue by at least giving the Leasehold Valuation Tribunal jurisdiction over costs, so that any party who is deliberately uncooperative will be penalised on costs. Principles can sometimes be an expensive luxury and Parliament must ensure that these principles can realistically be put into practice.

● The author is a partner of Francis Russell surveys.

● The Enfranchisement League (081-964 1040) would like to hear from anybody who feels he or she would be unfairly excluded under the proposed legislation.

Buy-and-build Brazilian plots

A developer aims to attract wealthy clients to an exotic but isolated coastal site

The idea of building anything in a rain forest, let alone building your own designer home on a 300-acre site, would surely not be contemplated by even the most adventurous of British builders. Especially when the site is in Brazil, a country that is notorious for chopping down its forests.

But the developer, Nicola D'Ipollito, who moved from his native Sicily to São Paulo 20 years ago, has set himself the task of convincing wealthy Britons to buy a plot and build their own home on the site in Porto Seguro, Bahia.

He has one advantage: the site is the stuff of dreams, and dream homes. After flying in over the sea and the 52km of deserted beach adjoining the site, the landing is on a makeshift runway, although a new one is under development. There is not a car in sight. The silence is broken only by the sound of toucans calling and lizards scurrying. Even when the development is completed, the plot ratios will leave neighbours at least 400 yards apart.

There is not a car in sight. The silence is broken only by the sound of toucans calling and lizards scurrying. Even when the development is completed, the plot ratios will leave neighbours at least 400 yards apart, screened from noise pollution and still able to enjoy the distinctive sound of the surrounding forest which includes mango and coconut palms.

But the disadvantages are obvious. The Brazilians face a monthly inflation rate of 25 per cent. Armed guards patrol the development. Rio de Janeiro is a 12 hour flight from London. It is a further three-hour flight to the Outer São Brás (Hill Breeze) in Porto Seguro, where the Portuguese first landed almost 500 years ago. A private jet would be useful.

Against these odds, 20 of the 340 plots have been sold to Europeans, mainly Italians, attracted by the prospect of a little bit of unspoiled paradise compared with their own over-run rivers. Brazil's leading environmentalists and architects, such as Ricardo Salen, have backed the scheme. Salen is so impressed that he has instigated the Quadrilátero, a multi-million-pound project, to turn the area into an environmental protection zone.

neur, has planted 12,000 in the wildlife haven where buffaloes wander freely. About £4 million has been spent on a new road and bridge, although transportation in the area is more likely to be by pony or chartered airplane, and on the installation of water and electricity. A knowledge of Portuguese is essential in such a backwater.

Property registration and purchasing procedures are relatively cheap, with a 4 per cent tax on the cost of the land and legal fees. Selling the property can cost up to 8 per cent in fees. Profits on letting homes are taxed by as much as 35 per cent, which can be passed on to the tenants. Profits can also be absorbed in the costs of maintenance to reduce tax.

The service charge on these properties will be approximately £4,000 a year. Building costs vary between £125 and £400 per square metre. The average house is likely to be four-bedroomed, with one master suite and three double guest rooms, and a couple of bathrooms.

Modelled on the American chalet, they have large downstairs rooms, and some are thatched. The average 1.25-acre plot, of which house-space is restricted to only 40 per cent of that area, will cost £50,000, with a further £60,000 for building costs. Designs must conform to the planning regulations and houses must not be more than two storeys high. A guarantee is expected to ensure that the promised golf course, equestrian centre and beach club are completed as planned.

Clients are likely to be jet-setters looking for an alternative to their usual destinations in the South of France or Spain, and who will not be deterred by the cost. The sparsely populated Porto Seguro certainly provides a stark contrast to the built-up Mediterranean, but on top of land and building costs, clients will have to be wealthy enough to hire their own chartered plane for the ten minute flight from Porto Seguro's tiny airport to the site.

ANDREW PIERCE

● Further details from Peter Lucas (071-235 8008)

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The financial director of a major international company is looking for an exceptional PA/Secretary.

A dynamic, energetic, and creative person with a proven track record in the financial sector. The ideal candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be required to handle a high volume of correspondence and to manage the company's financial affairs.

This is an excellent opportunity for someone who has an impressive and varied background in the financial sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be required to handle a high volume of correspondence and to manage the company's financial affairs.

Age 25-40 Standard UK/US/Spain

West End Finance
£17,000

Join one of the leading international PLCs in Mayfair. You will be a vital link in the treasury team who trade and invest huge sums of money daily.

As coordinator you will record transactions and results using your proven spreadsheet knowledge and analytical skills. You will also administer all sales and control the paper work. You will need an accounts or finance background as well as the ability to communicate at main board level.

Age 20-28

Call 071 287 7788

ANGELA MORTIMER
Secretarial Recruitment Consultancy

High Calibre Secretary

Based in the heart of the City, 1 Cornhill, is the Head Office of the Royal Insurance Group which has offices throughout the UK, Europe, North America and the rest of the World.

There is an interesting and demanding role of a highly confidential nature for an experienced secretary as a member of the team working directly for the Group Chief Executive and the Group Company Secretary.

We would expect you to have been working as a personal secretary for a minimum of three years to have acquired the quality of secretarial skills we require - a pleasant, calm manner, shorthand, audio, accurate spelling and a proven facility in word processing - 'word for windows' is preferred but not essential, as training can be provided.

A competitive, progressive salary, based on individual performance, together with an attractive benefits package is provided. In addition we offer a comfortable working environment, flexible hours and a subsidised restaurant.

For an application form please write to: Jean S Fraser, Group Personnel Department, Royal Insurance plc, Level 7, New Hall Place, PO Box 144, Liverpool L69 3EN.

Royal Insurance

New Mayfair Club

Experienced

Telephonist

with excellent telephone

skills and a proven

track record in a

major City company.

Salary £12,000. Age 21-28

years.

Telephone: 071-233-2788 for further

details. No agencies.

Born Organiser

c £20,000

Two high flying senior directors, seek a poised and charming secretary to assist them with a wide variety of administrative and secretarial tasks. Based in stunning offices in EC3, duties will include co-ordinating complex arrangements for worldwide meetings, itineraries and travel, liaising with clients and compiling, and distributing board minutes. This is a high profile role where the ability to use your initiative and liaise comfortably at a senior level is essential. If you have skills 80/60/WP, immaculate presentation and are aged 26-32. Please call Esther Marsden on 071-377 9919.

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTSBanking
Experience?

West End c £20,000 pkg

Buy Corporate Investment Department of prestigious bank need a young enthusiastic secretary. A positive attitude and commitment to the position are required together with the willingness to work late which will be well rewarded.

Banking experience and computer literacy essential. European languages, shorthand and spreadsheet/database/graphic knowledge an advantage. This is a challenging role offering security and excellent benefits. Please call Virginia on 071-494 4512.

Crone Corkill
Banking

Titmuss Sainer & Webb

DIRECTOR LEVEL
PA / SECRETARY

Widely acknowledged as one of the leading City law firms, Titmuss Sainer and Webb require an enthusiastic and highly efficient secretary to join our Director of Bankruptcy.

Development who has responsibility for strategic planning, sales and marketing and client-focused service quality.

Applicants should have an understanding of marketing techniques, that include WP skills, an understanding of Bank Top Publishing and business strategy.

The firm offers a competitive remuneration package including pension and private health benefits.

Please send your curriculum vitae to: Joanna Day, Personnel Department, Titmuss Sainer and Webb, 2 Seagrove Lane, London EC4V 3LT.

No Agencies

Personal Assistant to the Managing Director

Salary: £20k

Compton Unlimited are the largest distributors of directory products in the Apple Macintosh marketplace holding UK distribution rights for leading brand names. Our Managing Director is a young, energetic, and ambitious individual with a proven track record in the directory business. We are looking for a young, energetic, and ambitious individual with a proven track record in the directory business. We are looking for a young, energetic, and ambitious individual with a proven track record in the directory business.

If you believe you fit the above criteria, please write in the first instance enclosing your CV to:

See: Rodwell Brooks, Human Resources Director, Compton Unlimited, No. 2 The Business Centre, Colindale Lane, London NW9 6DU

TEAM SECRETARY

EASTERN EUROPE

Required for newly formed Emerging Markets Division of rapidly expanding company. Ideally you will have: mother tongue English, together with a proven track record of an assistant with sound skills and a sense of humour. We are looking for a young, energetic, and ambitious individual with a proven track record in the directory business. We are looking for a young, energetic, and ambitious individual with a proven track record in the directory business.

Please send a detailed CV and recent photograph to: Julie Deane, Ref: 1234, Africa House, 64/76 Kingsway, London WC2B 6AH

WEDNESDAY
La Crème de la Crème: Secretarial Appointments
Property: Residential, Town & Country.
Overseas, Rentals.
Commercial Property: with editorial.

THURSDAY
General Appointments: Management, Engineering, Science & Technology, with editorial.

FRIDAY
International Appointments: Overseas Opportunities. Mature: The complete car buyer's guide with editorial.

Business to Business: Business opportunities.

MONDAY
Education: University Appointments, Prep & Public School Appointments. Educational Courses. Scholarships and Fellowships with editorial.

TUESDAY
Legal Appointments: Solicitors, Commercial Lawyers, Legal Officers. Private & Public Practice with editorial.

Public Appointments. Creative & Media Appointments.

THE WORLD FAMOUS PERSONAL COLUMN, INCLUDING RENTALS, APPEARS EVERY DAY.

TELEPHONE: 071-481 4000

TEMPORARIES CONSULTANT

Due to ongoing expansion one of Office Angels' successful Central London branches requires a talented TEMPORARIES CONSULTANT - someone ideally experienced within the recruitment industry, an ambitious 'people person' with pioneering spirit & a great deal of resourcefulness.

Placing temporaries, acquiring bookings & expanding our client base requires a combination of technique, tenacity and persuasiveness. An angel in other words.

Please write in strictest confidence, to: PAUL JACOBS, Area Manager, Office Angels, Wells House, 77-79 Wells St, London W1P 4AX

Office Angels

Banking PA

c£23,000 pkg

Leading Investment Bank is looking for a confident and enthusiastic secretary/PA with a flair for organisation. Working for a team who are constantly on the move, you will be kept on your toes seeing overseas travel itineraries, keeping track of the team, speaking to clients on their behalf and holding the fort in their absence. Skills 100/60/WP. A good clutch of O-levels and banking experience preferred. Flexibility to work overtime essential. Please telephone Caroline Smith on 071-377 8827.

Crone Corkill
BankingPROFILES
071 481 4481

Crème de la Crème

Looking for a new PA/Secretary opportunity? Advertise your skills in The Times Crème de la Crème Profiles. Price £49 plus VAT for 4x1 (minimum size) semi display (£18 per additional centimetre).

DO YOU NEED A PROFESSIONAL PA?

I am a 24 year old PA with 4 years experience. Skills include SH and typing of 50wpm, audio and varied WP experience. I am looking for a position in W1 area, working for a friendly, fun co. 5 weeks holiday, 9.30am-5.30pm. Salary c£15,000. If you are in need of an efficient, self motivated and well presented PA, don't delay REPLY TO BOX NO.

Placing a Classified advertisement in this section of The Times is easy. Simply complete the coupon below or call: 071 481 4481. All major credit cards accepted.

PRINT YOUR AD BELOW IN BLOCK CAPITALS underline letters you require as capitals.

First Name:		Middle:		Surname:	
Address:					
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Date(s) of appearance:		Box No £10 extra Yes No			
Credit Card No:		Expiry Date:		Cheque	
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS					
Cardholders Address if different from above:					
Address for Box Number replies if different from above:		Post Code:			
Post Code:		Post Code:			

POST TO: Classified Advertising Department, Times Newspapers Limited, PO Box 484, Virginia Street, London E1 9BL. Fax: 071 782 7826 or 071 782 7827.

To ensure publication on Monday we must receive your advertisement no later than 5.00pm Friday. Terms and conditions available on request.

PLEASE FILL IN THE COUPON IN BLOCK CAPITALS

First Name:		Middle:		Surname:	
Address:					
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ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS					
Cardholders Address if different from above:					
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Fill in the coupon and attach it to your advertisement, written on a separate piece of paper, allowing 24 letters and spaces per line. Rates are: £45.00 per line (Min. 3 lines, only first word in bold); Boxed Display £30 per single column (Min. 3 columns); Court & Social £10 per line. Saturday Review Telephone our Classified Advertising Department on 071-481 4000 between 9am-5pm Monday to Friday, 9.30am-1.00pm Saturday, late evening 7.30pm on Tue, P.O. Box 484, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD.

Name:		Address:	
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USE YOUR CREDIT CARD		Expiry Date:	

Secretary to Director

From £15,000 plus benefits

An exciting opportunity exists to work for the Director of The Wellcome Trust - the largest grant-giving charity for medical research in the UK.

We require an experienced and enthusiastic Secretary with a good sense of humour to provide secretarial support and assistance to the Director, based in our newly refurbished offices in Euston Road. On a daily basis you will work closely with the Director's Personal Assistant, for whom you will be expected to deputise on occasions.

You should have a good level of general education, preferably 'A' level standard, have shorthand of a minimum 100wpm, accurate WP skills and the ability to work on your own initiative. Although not essential, experience in a medical or academic environment would be a distinct advantage.

To apply please write with CV, including a daytime telephone number, to Miss Jackie Morrissey, The Wellcome Trust, The Wellcome Building, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 4BE. Please note the closing date for applications is Wednesday 14th October 1992.

NO AGENCIES

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

CRISIS NO DRAMA
£20,000

This is a key job for a dedicated PA to support the requirements of the two top executives of this large and prosperous insurance company. The executive have responsibility for the entire core business of this substantial group and the group's services. The ideal candidate will have the self confidence to run and rearrange meetings and travel arrangements in knowledge of her good judgement and have the social experience to promote three top executives in their dealings with international clients, therefore taking the drama out of their lives. A clear licence and good spelling is also essential. Age 22 - 30. 100/60wpm

071 235 8427.

Maine - Tucker
Recruitment ConsultantsGET INVOLVED...
£13-14,500 + Super Pkg

...Leap into action in these spartan SW1 offices, it's all go and you're in the thick of it! Come into this friendly blue chip PR/Advertising company and look after one of their brightest stars... be a part of exciting campaigns... charm the New Biz clients! You need good typing (50+) & reliable shorthand (80). If you ask anyone who works here what they like best? It's the people! If you are in your mid 20's and love being frantic call us!

18-21 Jersey Street, London SW1V 6EP
Telephone: 071 734 7341 Facsimile: 071 734 3260

ADVERTISING AGENCY PA c£18k

Looking for a change of pace? Perhaps in advertising already? Join this award winning agency where opportunities for PAs who want to use their organisational and admin skills genuinely exist. Assisting the people at the top who have hands on involvement in all the major accounts, it's the chance of a lifetime. Immaculate presentation, proven secretarial skills (sh useful) and at least 2 years' exp at Director level. Call Gill Rehbeck on 071 408 0424

70-71 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON W1

Team Up!
£12,500

Together you see it's unstoppable! Fly through daily tasks of arranging travel and meetings, whizzing off faxes and letters and lending a hand on reception when you join this young team of underwriters. They need a secretary with bags of initiative, a year's work experience and 5 O'levels whom they can rely upon for efficient and accurate support. Age 20-25. 50 wpm typing. Please telephone Victoria Herrington on 071 377 9919 for further details.

INTERNATIONAL SPECIAL EVENTS

Confident, cheerful, organised, efficient secretary with good WP skills, shorthand, SH and audio. Extensive experience in organising events, liaising with clients and managing a team of staff. To cover all aspects of general office duties, team spirit and professional manner. Salary £11,000 ann. Please call Joji Wilkes at 071 287 6446 (NO AGENCIES)

W.E. AD AGENCY

£14,000-£15,000 AAE
Aged 25-35
Capable all-rounder required for total involvement.

S/H (nasty) & Applenac
Call Caroline Wharton on: 071- 839 7866
AWD (Rec Cons).

HOBSTONES

LITIGATION SECRETARY

Required for a firm of solicitors based in S.W.1. (nearest underground station Green Park or Piccadilly). The successful applicant (aged between 22 and 35) must have a minimum of 3 years legal experience, together with excellent typing and w.p. skills. Qualities such as adaptability, flexibility and the ability to remain calm under pressure are also required. Additional language skills would be desirable but are not essential.

We can offer an excellent salary, plus lunch vouchers and season ticket loan.

Please reply to box number 3475, c/o Times Newspapers, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD.

MONDAY

Education: University Appointments, Prep & Public School Appointments. Educational Courses. Scholarships and Fellowships with editorial.

TUESDAY

Legal Appointments: Solicitors, Commercial Lawyers, Legal Officers. Private & Public Practice with editorial.

Public Appointments. Creative & Media Appointments.

THE WORLD FAMOUS PERSONAL COLUMN, INCLUDING RENTALS, APPEARS EVERY DAY.

TELEPHONE: 071-481 4000

WEDNESDAY

La Crème de la Crème: Secretarial Appointments
Property: Residential, Town & Country.
Overseas, Rentals.
Commercial Property: with editorial.

THURSDAY

General Appointments: Management, Engineering, Science & Technology, with editorial.

FRIDAY

International Appointments: Overseas Opportunities. Mature: The complete car buyer's guide with editorial.

Business to Business: Business opportunities.

MONDAY

Education: University Appointments, Prep & Public School Appointments. Educational Courses. Scholarships and Fellowships with editorial.

TUESDAY

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CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 **Cartoons** (43566)
- 7.00 **The Big Breakfast** presented by Chris Evans and Gaby Rogers (49455)
- 9.00 **You Bet Your Life**. American game show hosted by Bill Cosby (429740)
- 9.30 **Scholar** (957363)
- 12.00 **The Stars**. The first of a six-part series in which Heather Couper examines men's changing relationship with the stars (tr) (Teletext) (16276)
- 12.30 **Sesame Street**. Entertaining early-learning series (tr) (62108)
- 1.00 **Burek's Castle**. Children's music and cartoons programme (tr) (34160)
- 2.00 **Great Russian Writers**. The life and works of Anton Chekhov, narrated by Alan Dobie. (Teletext) (86284108)
- 2.25 **Channel 4 Racing from Newmarket**. Brough Scott introduces live coverage of the Hunter Price Partnership Handicap (3.25); the Rous Stakes (3.05); the Tattersalls Chesham Park Stakes (3.40); and the EBF Fillies' Nursery Handicap (3.40) (A.10) (34050547)
- 4.30 **Philly to New**. Fast-moving cricket. A William G. Stewart (672)
- 5.00 **The Oprah Winfrey Show**. A discussion on the plight of divorced mothers bringing up children who join their fathers when teenagers (7134672)
- 5.55 **The Bunbury Tails**. Animated adventures of a group of sporting rabbits (c) (373566)
- 6.00 **Treasure Hunt**. Annetta Rice gushes around the Chiltern countryside in search of hidden treasure (tr). (Teletext) (50108)
- 7.00 **Channel 4 News** with Zeinab Badawi in London and Jon Snow at the Labour party conference in Blackpool. (Teletext) Weather (7189)



Bringing celebrities to book: Michael Aspel (7.00pm)

- 7.00 **This is Your Life.** Michael Agnew returns with a new series of the edited biography show (6) (3653)
- 7.30 **Coronation Street.** (Oracle) (288)
- 8.00 **Film: Beverly Hills Cop II** (1987) starring Eddie Murphy, Judge Reinhold and Jurgen Prochnow. Axel Foley, the streetwise Detroit policeman, returns to Beverly Hills on the trail of a group of thugs who are responsible for a series of violent robberies. Directed by Tony Scott (201)
- 8.00 **News at Ten** with Alastair Stewart and Carol Barnes. (Oracle) Weather (19363) 10.30 **Times News** (98653)
- 10.40 **The European Match.** Highlights of this evening's European cup first-round, second leg match at Blind Road between Leeds United and Nottingham Forest. Introduced by Sir John. The commentators are Brian Moore and Ann Atkinson (160701)
- 11.35 **Hollywood Report.** Gossip from movieland (74295)
- 12.05 **Film: The Last Ride of the Dalton Gang** (1979) starring Cliff Potts, Randy Quaid and Larry Wilcox. A made-for-television western about the exploits of the infamous gang of horse thieves, train and bank robbers who are depicted as brainless morons. Directed by Dan Curtis (14472)
- 2.45 **America's Top Ten** presented by Richard Blake (6) (46994)
- 3.15 **Videofashion** (53343246)
- 3.40 **Quiz Night.** Inter pub and club competition (44678062)
- 4.10 **Grand Ole Opry.** Country and western music from Nashville, Tennessee (4814913)
- 4.40 **Fifty Years On.** Vintage news clips (22515420)
- 5.00 **Three's Company.** American comedy series (29710)
- 5.30 **ITN Morning News** with Phil Roman (93449). Ends at 6.00

8.00 Brookside. Soap set in a suburban Merseyside close. (Teletext 56) (2653)

8.30 Inspector Morse: Driven to Distraction. The cerebral, irascible detective investigates a seemingly motiveless murder and faces up to the possibility of being paired with his beloved Jaguar. Starring John Thaw and Kevin Whately (V). (Teletext 84769)

10.30 Pecking Them In. Variety acts introduced by Jerry Eclair, Frank Skinner, Roger Mann and Kevin Eidon. Tonight's guests are stand-up comedian Noel James and the capella group Two Girls Whist Sing and Polly Sparkes (V) (31363)

11.15 The Prisoner. Episodic two of the cult 1960s mystery series starring Patrick McGeehan (V). (Teletext 156106)

12.15am The Steve Allen Show. American satirical comedy show from the 1950s. With Bob Hope, Gene Nelson and Olsen and Johnson (FS141245)

12.40 Film: Kaaguz Ka Phool (1959). A Hindi drama about a film director whose wife is falling apart. Starring and directed by Guru Dutt (78395642). Ench at 3.20

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TYNE TEES

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TYNE TEES
 12.00pm *Leisure* 5.00 *Northern Life*
 2.35 3.30-3.00 *Blockbusters* 5.47 8.00-
 8.00 *Football: Leeds vs Southampton* (11)
 8.00 *Film: Macquarie* (4) 8.50/9.37 12.25
 12.30 *The Young Riders* (2) 14.40 1.20 *Donnerstag*
 2.05/15.17 2.15 *Video View* (47) 28.25/1.10
 2.35 *It's Me—Tomorrow* (47)
 4.05/1.52 4.35-5.30 *Leisure* (2) 5.30/1.17

WILSTER
 12.00pm *Leisure* 1.45 *Sea and Dunes*
 2.05/2.12 2.15-2.45 *Who's the Boss?*
 2.45/2.57 2.58-3.50 *A Country Practice*
 3.50/4.02 3.55-4.40 *Horns and Hooves*
 4.40/4.52 4.45-5.00 *Leisure* (47) 5.00
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AUTUMN NATIONAL FRANCHISE EXHIBITION

**World Business Report 12.15 From Our Own Correspondent 12.30 Multitrack 2.10 News
3.30 Two Cheers for September 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Waveguide 2.40 Book Choice
4.15 The Farming World 3.00 News 3.30 Sports International 4.00 News 4.09 Words of Faith
4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30 Assignment 5.00 News 5.15 The Farming World**

CLASSIC FM

**6.00am Nick Bagley 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00
Graham Coxhead 2.00am Marylinne Fritchen**

Tippett (*Steal Away, A Child of Our Time*: BBC Singers; BBC Choral Society; BBC SO);
 Lambert (*Palindromic Prelude*, *Horscoppe*: BBC Concert Orchestra); Shostakovich
 Quartet performs Beethoven
 (Quartet in C minor, Op 18 No
 4); Bartók (Quartet No 6)
 12.30am News 12.35 Close
 1.00-2.25 Night School (except in
 Scotland: as Radio 5 at 9am)

12.00-12.43am News, incl 12.27
Weather 12.33 Shipping
Forecast 12.43 As World
Service (LW only)

Seen from the Top
of the 1980s
turned to his

10

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